MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

10 SEPTEMBER 1982

Arab Summit Conference

The final statement of the Arab summit conference in Fes, read out over Rabat radio late on 9 September by Moroccan Minister for Foreign Affairs M'hamed Boucetta, detailed the previously reported summit plan for solving the Palestinian problem and condemned the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. The statement said the conference was notified of the Lebanese Government's decision to end the Arab Deterrent Forces' role in Lebanon provided that arrangements are made between the Syrian and Lebanese Governments in light of an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. On the Iran-Iraq war, the conference declared its commitment to defend Arab territories and to consider any attack on an Arab country as an attack on all Arab countries. Both sides should adhere to UN Security Council resolutions and all states should discourage continuation of the war, the statement affirmed. In the Horn of Africa conflict, the summit expressed its support for Somalia against Ethiopian attacks on its territory. Finally, the conference agreed to set up a committee to contact UN Security Council members to follow up on summit conference resolutions on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In a speech at the end of the conference, carried by Rabat radio, Moroccan King Hassan II praised the eight-point Arab peace plan and asserted that the conferees worked in an atmosphere of "friendship and cooperation." He admitted that not everything had been completed regarding the Lebanon question and offered Morocco as the site for further discussion between Lebanese and Palestinians.

According to sources cited by AFP, Lebanon demanded at the conference that the Palestinians promise to cease military activity against Israel from Lebanese territory, but the PLO would not admit publicly that it had agreed to this promise to Arab leaders. Another AFP report said Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad told the summit meeting that he will withdraw his troops from Lebanon if requested to do so by Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis. Meanwhile, some members of the PLO delegation at the Fes conference have rejected the Arab peace plan article on UN guarantees for peace among all states in the region because this violates Palestine National Council resolutions and is a concession to Israel, Lebanese newspaper sources cited by Monte Carlo radio claimed.

In a speech to the conference on 8 September carried by SUNA, Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri called for Egypt's return to the Arab ranks. He asserted that Egypt was unaffected by the boycott declared at the Baghdad Arab summit and that the absence of Egypt from joint Arab action is intolerable. Conference sources cited by AFP revealed that with Numayri's stance, and support from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, the conference decided to send a delegation to Cairo to discuss Egyptian reintegration into the Arab League. Egypt's AL-AHRAM, according to MENA, revealed that Arab states have been in touch with the Egyptian president during the conference.

In a statement to Amman television, Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran asserted that the fraternal atmosphere at the conference enabled the Jordanian king to speak objectively about a promising future with the presidents of Syria and Iraq. A Saudi commentary broadcast by Riyadh radio spoke of enhanced Arab confidence and said the most important result of the conference was an end to Arab differences.

Lebanon

Military Situation -- Israeli planes attacked and destroyed four SAM-9 launchers in the Dahr al-Baydar region on the morning of 9 September, the IDF spokesman announced in a statement reported by IDF radio. A Syrian military spokesman confirmed that the Israelis had renewed their attacks against Syrian air defenses and admitted that three vehicles were hit, according to Damascus radio. A Lebanese police report cited by KUNA said Israeli aircraft also attacked Syrian artillery and tank positions.

Jerusalem radio said the destroyed missiles were the remainder of the battery attacked on 8 September. Senior Israeli officers cited by IDF radio said the Syrian attempt to infiltrate SAM's into Lebanon was apparently a "demonstrative act" designed to test Israel's reaction. In remarks broadcast by the radio, Israel's Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan claimed that Syria's stated willingness to leave Lebanon is "lipservice" and "a political maneuver."

In other developments Voice of Lebanon radio said Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf is establishing a new organizational base in Tripoli.

Conditions for Israelis' Release -- Ahmad Jibril's PFLP-General Command claims to hold the eight Israelis captured 4 September and has forwarded conditions for their release to the International Red Cross, AFP reported. The conditions are: Israel must issue a list of all Palestinians captured since 6 June; it must authorize Red Cross visits to them; and it must stop its "inhumane treatment" of captive Palestinians or "the same treatment" will be inflicted on the Israeli prisoners.

Israel

Israel gives the United States strategic assistance and contributes to its national security more than the United States aids Israel and contributes to its national security, Prime Minister Menahem Begin asserted in an interview to be published by BAMAHANE and reported by IDF radio. Accusing the United States of intervening in Israel's affairs, he reaffirmed that the dispute between government and opposition over the new U.S. plan should be put to the test of elections.

Iraq

Attacks on Iranian Shipping -- Iraqi naval units sunk an Iranian vessel at the entrance of Khowr-e Musa and Iraqi planes raided shipping anchored off Bushehr port, setting an oil tanker ablaze, according to Iraqi military statements reported by INA.

Ramadan Comment, Husayn in Algeria -- In a statement to the paper 'UKAZ cited by INA, First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan said the time is not right for Egypt to return to the Arab fold and welcomed Algerian mediation in the war with Iran. Meanwhile, INA reported that President Saddam Husayn made a brief stopover in Algeria and met with the Algerian president before returning home from the Fes summit.

Iranian-Saudi Relations

Responding to a Saudi protest against the activities of Iranian pilgrims in Medina, Iran's pilgrim supervisor Musavi-Kho'ini claimed that while the Iranian pilgrims have caused no problems and no disturbance, the Saudi authorities have created trouble for them, Tehran radio reported. Saudi Arabia's behavior toward Iranian pilgrims will show whether it is willing to have good relations with Iran, he added. Musavi-Kho'ini asserted the pilgrims' right to hold gatherings and chant slogans against Israel, the United States and the Soviet Union as part of their hajj ceremonies.

Libya

Libya and Czechoslovakia have signed a treaty of friendship and cooperation, a communique issued by both countries and transmitted by JANA announced. While in Prague for his talks with Czechoslovak leaders, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi also met with PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, who had arrived from Fes on a medical visit, according to Tripoli and Rabat radios. The Libyan leader subsequently visited Warsaw for talks with Polish leaders, Warsaw television noted.

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ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE CONTINUES IN FES

Text of 'Arafat Address

GF090900 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1815 GMT 8 Sep 82

["Text" of speech delivered by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at the Fes summit conference on 6 September -- read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, most gracious, most merciful. God has purchased of the believers their persons and their goods, for theirs in return is the garden of paradise; they fight in His cause and slay and are slain. A promise binding on Him in truth, through the law, the gospel and the Koran. And who is more faithful to His covenant than God? Then rejoice in the bargain you have concluded. That is the supreme achievement. [Koranic verse]

Almighty God has willed that we meet once more in Fes. The two meetings were separated by a period of time that was full of major events, profound reactions and bloody battles which have brought a great number of these problems, questions and changes to this assembly. These necessitate that we strive for the highest levels of responsibility in order to deal with these questions, problems and challenges. We are requested to confront all these changes with the utmost amount of wisdom, consciousness and determination, particularly because I have come from steadfast Beirut, the Beirut of jihad and sanguine battle, following the completion of the withdrawal of the forces that defended this brave city in the wake of violent, fierce and bloody battles in which we confronted this criminal Zionist enemy and its huge and advanced U.S. arsenal with all its sophisticated arms of destruction and eradication.

Military observers and the enemy's U.S. masters admitted that these weapons were most sophisticated and modern as compared with those of wars that humanity has so far experienced. Some of these weapons were used for the first time as if Beirut and Lebanon were a testing ground for sophisticated and modern U.S. weaponry just as was stated recently by the U.S. defense secretary.

This war has been the longest Arab-Israeli war in our modern history. It was directed with all its savageness and violence against the Lebanese and Palestinian people. It was destined for me to be alive with you now although I stood along with my brothers, armed companions and struggling sons in defense of this valiant and steadfast city side by side with Beirut's children, women and men as well as all our Lebanese and Palestinian people in Lebanon who confronted this criminal and savage Zionist onslaught. Some of them have died and others are waiting for their turn without changing the least.

This war was essentially a U.S. war. It was directed not only directly against the PLO and its allies but also against the entire Arab nation. The United States used this mercenary Israeli enemy which is supported militarily, politically, economically and diplomatically by the United States in order to implement its evil crime against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.

This war went beyond its goals that were announced at the beginning. It crossed the borders of Palestine and Lebanon in order to undermine the essence, future and entity of our Arab nation and the future of our children. The enemy used some of the Lebanese as a cover. This was coupled at the start or the end of the operation with the world's ineffectual reaction to events in southern Lebanon.. This had a great and serious impact because it aided the enemy and gave it the necessary pretext and justifications.

Then came the events and statements made about the goals of the invasion by the various parts of the conspiracy. It then became obvious that the savage operations were aimed and are still aimed at drawing a new map for our Arab region in which decisions will be made by this U.S. imperialist clique and its thick truncheon, Israel.

Let us remember carefully and deeply all the statements that were made by the Israeli enemy and the U.S. officials prior to the war, during it and after it so that the full dimensions of this conspiracy can become clear. This war's file is still open in Lebanon and the Biqa' and northern regions. It is also still open in Beirut itself where the most savage and unequal blackmail process is practiced against the nationalist Christian and Muslim forces. The Israeli enemy continues to put its entire weight into this process in order to suppress these forces in order to change the image of the Lebanese accord. We hope the Lebanese will continue to live under its protection. The Lebanese have a right and a trust with us because they happened to have shared the agony with their blood, sweat, sacrifice, effort, money and struggle.

We managed to remain steadfast in the fire throughout this war by virtue of our belief and will. Belief and faith are to be thanked for this legendary steadfastness and miraculous battle. This will be recorded in history with letters of light and fire. Lebanon and its resisting south and Beirut with its marvelous steadfastness and its struggles have protected the honor of this nation and preserved Arab dignity. Beirut protected the region's might. With its 10 kilometers it was too tough to be stormed by the criminal invaders despite the hellfire that was poured on it from land, sea and air day and night from enemy planes, ships, tanks, artillery and missiles.

Beirut will continue to be a living witness for generations as a symbol of these values which we have missed for a long time in our nation's history. I will bring us back to the march of the first companions and strugglers at the early stages of Islam; the march of strugglers and supporters in its most magnificent and beautiful pictures and situations. This march included your Lebanese and Palestinian brothers together with the ADF and those volunteers who came from your Arab and Islamic countries to join this march of jihad and bear honorably with us this responsibility just as many of you have borne it with their brothers through effort, followup and responsibility hour after hour and day after day.

Brothers, Arab kings, presidents and princes, I don't want to go through the details of the sanguine record although it is an honor for Lebanon's war and Beirut's sanguine battle. This battle of heroism, struggle, sacrifice, martyrdom and total destruction is a decisive turning point not only for the Palestinian or Lebanese peoples but is also a historic and civilized turning point in the march of jihad for our entire nation and for all honorable free persons in the world.

In this murderous war we have suffered 49,600 Lebanese and Palestinian civilians martyred or wounded as well as 5,300 military personnel martyred or wounded including those heroes who volunteered with the Palestinian Resistance and fought with it in order to defend it. We still have about 6,000 combatants missing.

This outflow of blood which has not stopped for a single moment deserves from all of us and from the entire nation a genuine loyalty in order to clear away the remains of this comprehensive destruction and horrible sabotage which has left about 1 million Palestinians and Lebanese homeless.

The Israel-U.S. invasion has opened in the body of the Arab nation a wound that is deeper and bigger than all its wounds and sufferings since 1948. Thus, the reply must be proportionate to the size of this huge earthquake and equal to the challenge to the entire Arab existence.

The process of occupying Lebanon following the occupation of Palestine, despite all the masks and curtains that cover this occupation, has resulted in the occupation of a new territory of the Arab homeland. This process has violated an independent sovereignty and has wounded a national commitment. This meeting must evaluate truthfully the seriousness of this change in the map of the Arab homeland and the Middle East which is in the interest of establishing an Israeli empire that revolves in the U.S. orbit and forces us into an Israeli age that wants to control the region, may God forbid. This will be at the expense of our nation, its civilization, soil and beliefs in the past, present and the future.

Brother Arab kings, presidents and amirs, the Arab decision is in your hands. You are all responsible first and last for the fate of this nation, the future of its generations -- its national, patriotic and religious future. We are facing the most difficult choices and the most serious historic and fatal turning points in the age of nations, kingdoms, states and peoples. Time is no longer on our side. We have reached this situation which is not worthy of envy, nor is it acceptable to our masses. We are requested to adopt a new stand in which we view accounts, revise stands and check positions, powers and alliances so that the enemy will not be able to repeat its plans or complete its hostile policy by dealing with us individually. At this time, the feeling of guilt will not help.

I have come to you from a people who are bleeding and in the name of believing strugglers. I deliver to you sanguine words in order to confront the enemy together. We are able to do that including our body which is full of wounds. I shall be frank with you. This meeting, and I say this out of conviction, will be the fatal stand and the decisive meeting. I must also be a historic stand that will bring hope and confidence to Palestine, Lebanon and the Arabs. I say this by virtue of my faith in the nation, its inevitable victory and its ability to bypass the factors of disagreement, division and disputation whether big or small. Everyone is responsible before the nation, God and [all] generations.

Lebanon, Beirut and the strugglers who defended it have given the best example of confrontation. They have even given answers to questions that we frequently asked together during our discussions of the confrontation's prerequisites before this Zionist onslaught which is dangerous to all of us. Our steadfastness succeeded through will, belief, determination and decisive resolution. It was through this will, belief, determination and decision that Beirut and its defenders resisted for nearly 3 months this insolent army, its was machinery, savage crimes and the extermination war it launched against us and during which it poured its fires on Beirut's children and heroic steadfast men after it wiped out on its way to Beirut 14 Palestinian camps and destroyed 32 Lebanese villages and 3 other cities. This happened prior to the seige and destruction of Beirut.

The most difficult decision to be made by us as joint Lebanese-Palestinian forces -- as well as the ADF which participated in depending the valiant and brave city -- was to leave the city following the bloody battle there. We would not have left had it not been for Beirut's children and our love for them and had it not been for Beirut's citizens of whom we are proud.

This was a decision to rescue the city from total destruction that was announced by the enemy when it said it would kill every child, woman and old person in the city. The enemy continued to be proud of implementing this horrible plan for more than 3 months before the entire Arab and international communities.

The enemy tried to storm the city 11 times by land and 6 times by sea but was forced to retreat. The enemy's military communiques admitted its failure and defeat. However, even this decision to rescue the city required for its implementation and the enemy's acceptance violent and continuous fighting as well as joint political efforts. You know well that if we had not translated this decision into fierce fighting on land, if it had not been for the caravans of wounded and martyrs, if it had not been for the legendary steadfastness of this valiant city, Beirut, and if it had not been for all this bloody battle and all its chapters, patriotic Beirut would have become the headquarters of Sharon's command where he would have walked haughtily as he had been dreaming and imagining. However, he stopped short of it and outside its gates just as Napoleon stopped short of Acre's gates.

So long as we live, we shall not forget the companions of the trenches and struggle in Beirut and Lebanon. This companionship was bolstered in battles. Beirut's battle created this revolutionary and creative anthem among the strugglers, Beirut's masses, Lebanon's people in the south, the mountain, the Biqa' and the north, and all of Lebanon's national forces. We shall not forget the warmth and truth of their farewell for our strugglers as they left Beirut. We shall not forget the warmth and brotherhood with which these strugglers were received wherever they went. We shall not forget the efforts of the brothers, friends and allies.

Brother kings, presidents and amirs, Lebanon's war represented a serious challenge for our Arab nation. Together with Beirut's bloody battle, this war has disclosed important facts, the most important of which is the extent of the Israeli threat to our Arab nation and the Middle East. It has reached the extent of assuming the role of imperialist and colonial hegemony in the region considering that these wars are paid for in full by the U.S. administration. This was obvious from the very beginning and through the accumulation of aggressions and hostilities including the strike against the Iraqi nuclear reactor.

There is a covert and overt U.S. attempt to reinforce Israel and help it with all forms of unlimited aid militarily, politically, economically, diplomatically and in the media in order to allow Israel to act as a superpower in the region. It worked for itself while acting at the same time as a mercenary and loyal agent for the United States.

Sharon has been so presumptuous as to say that the circle of his influence extends beyond the region to include Africa and Central Asia. Here we are, and the enemy is still at Beirut's gate in spite of all the promises that were given by America and Lebanon. The enemy continues to occupy the south and large parts of the mountain and the Biqa'. It even declares its intentions to attack other Arab capitals in order to change regimes here and there. It even maintains pride for its overt and presumptuous interventions in the Lebanese presidential elections. It is now deploying its forces opposite the ADF and the joint forces in preparation for a new battle and a new aggression in the Biqa' and the northern part of Lebanon.

From my position and in the name of thousands of martyrs and wounded, and in the name of all the struggling mujahidin and these loyal and truthful masses, I reiterate this warning against this overwhelming threat. Let our Arab nation unite and wake up from its deep sleep in order to face facts and events and in order to confront the destined challenges to our civilization that are imposed on our Arab nation at this difficult time.

We must stop now before the U.S. policy and its disregard of our Arab nation. The dimensions of the U.S. embroilment in every Israeli aggression against the Arabs will be exposed. They use as a pretext the strategic cooperation agreement that was signed by Washington with the Zionist enemy last year and which has been implemented during the Lebanese war.

We must also pause at the unlimited practical support that the U.S. Government has given to the enemy in all his aggression. It has given him full protection in hiding his abominable crimes and his war of extermination on all levels. It has given him cover at the Security Council and the United Nations to enable him to continue these crimes with predetermination and in cold blood. The U.S. envoy to and representative in Lebanon then held talks -- under Lebanese protection and unashamedly -- with the joint forces defending Beirut, exposing its women and children to very sophisticated bombs that have been internationally banned, and exposing them to the enemy's hell, shells, rockets, siege, famine and terror, to compel the Palestinian Revolution to settle accounts with which it has nothing to do: U.S., Israeli and local accounts.

This despicable action has become part of the principle plan that has been implemented and is still being implemented in the region against the Lebanese people and against our Palestinian people. The result was these legendary and miraculous epics, great faith and divine care which oversaw this struggling small number of people who believe in their God and mission, and in their ability to face this terrible and criminal plot and the diabolical and sophisticated war machine at its disposal.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. They want to extinguish God's light with their mouths, and God refuses but to perfect His light, though the unbelievers be averse. [Koranic verse]

Arab brothers, presidents and amirs, we must clearly realize the effect of the stage through which we have passed and through which we are passing -- this erupting volcano, this earthquake, and the effect of all local, regional and international factors on the course of events and developments throughout the Arab homeland on our Arab nation from the Atlantic Ocean to the Gulf -- the effect on the whole situation in the Middle East and its surroundings. It is the Arab citizen's right to be surprised at the picture that appeared in the region and the world when he follows what is happening in Lebanon and in Beirut. There is a basic lesson we must draw from all this. The nation's intrinsic strength is the solid basis that enables it to face the dangers that threaten it. Another basic lesson is that we should see the effect of Arab disarray in paralyzing and dissipating the nation's intrinsic strength at a time our nation and homeland is the target of an ugly imperialist and colonialist aggression that is sponsored and blessed by the United States. Our enemy realizes this and exploits it to weaken us by shedding our blood drop by drop, disregarding international public opinion.

In a situation like this it is our right to look for the factors that influenced the course of events during the war, factors which have paralyzed us and imposed themselves on the entire region and on the course of the conflict with our principal enemy at a time which -- and I put it on record here with a great sense of responsibility -- was an ideal and unique opportunity to put an end to the bullying of the Israeli enemy, inflict a big defeat on it and liberate our land and sanctities. We must fully comprehend and be aware of this aspect, because the ability of the Arab who has faith was magnificently manifest, despite the fact that the enemy threw in most of his forces: material, navy and air force. Despite all the harsh, difficult and at times impossible circumstances, our forces have inflicted heavy losses on this arrogant enemy. The enemy admitted this, the number of enemy generals who were killed in this war, and the great losses in men sustained by the enemy -- which for him is among the most important losses and which exceed 17,000 casulaties, and the possibility for more still exists -- testify to this.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. And when you threw, it was not you that threw, but God threw, and that He might confer on the believers a fair benefit; and that God weakens the unbelievers' guile. [Koranic verse]

Brother Arab kings, presidents and amirs, What now that the onslaught is fierce, the situation is serious, the threat is close and the future of our nation, beliefs, civilization and heritage is at a turning point? Have we come to admonish each other? No, this is not the place for it. Have we come here to destroy? No, a thousand times no; suffice our nation the weakness it suffers and the ordeals it is facing.

Our hand is here to build, defend and work; our mind is here to assess and explore with you the horizons of this destiny; our heart is here so that we can plan together how to confront aggression and usurpation. We place our capabilities -- modestly but confidently -- for the future of our generations, the future of all of our nation and its survival, so that our children will live in dignity and pride.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Leave is given to those who fight because they were wronged, and surely God is able to grant them victory. [Koranic verse]

Therefore, we call for a unified Arab stand, bypassing everything that could obstruct this unity and impede our march. In order to properly confront this treacherous savage onslaught against our land, nation and survival I call on you and call on your conference which is being held in the present very complex and extremely critical circumstances to take the following steps:

1. To immediately return to collective Arab security and to abide by the joint defense agreements, and to immediately invite Arab defense, foreign and economic ministers to draw up a new Arab military, political and economic strategy that enables our Arab nation to confront the enemy and its allies.

2. To adopt the necessary steps to achieve genuine united Arab action on both the official and popular levels; and to end the destructive differences and secondary disputes that exhaust the capabilities of our nation and paralyze its human, material, military, economic and political resources; and to develop these resources so as to liberate our occupied land and achieve the aspirations of our people and masses.

3. To confront the challenges that have been imposed on us with a political plan that is integrated on all levels, and distinguishes between friends and foes, and provides for cooperating with brothers and allies -- a plan that proceeds from the existing factors to deal with all the issues facing our Arab nation, taking into consideration national [wataniyah], pan-Arab [qawmiyah], religious and international commitments.

4. To extend immediate material support to the heroic Lebanese people for reconstruction and to compensate the enormous losses resulting from this devastating war, whose main targets were Beirut and nationalist areas in southern Lebanon and Al-Biqa'.

5. To extend material and moral support to our Palestinian people inside our occupied territories, and to compensate our masses in Lebanon in rebuilding and reconstructing, in order to enable our people to continue their struggle to liberate our land and to establish their independent state on their Palestinian national soil.

6. To compensate the material and military losses of the Palestinian fighters and joint forces.

Our peoples and masses are looking forward with hope and expectation to the results of our conference -- a conference on which hopes are pinned in these extremely complex circumstances and in the light of the enormous responsibilities that we must shoulder. I have great confidence and faith that our nation is capable of facing the challenges and ordeals. This nation has faced many, many invaders and tyrants, all of whom have passed. They tried to humiliate, defeat and harm this nation. All of them have gone and our nation remained on this good earth. Just as all invaders have gone, and just as all invasions and campaigns were shattered by the will, faith and firmness of our masses, this Zionist invasion will be destroyed and the neo-fascist invaders will be defeated. They and all those who conspire and collude with them will be obliterated by history. This is the will of peoples, the will of justice, the will of life, the will of God, and God is the best witness.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. This is an exposition for mankind, and a guidance, and an admonition for the Godfearing. Faint not, neither sorrow; you shall be the upper ones if you are believers. If a wound touches you, a like wound already has touched your opponents. We deal out the days in turn among men, so that God may know who are the believers, and that He may take witnesses from among them. God does not love the unjust. God will test the believers and blot out the unbelievers. [Koranic verse]

They will enter the temple, as they entered it the first time, and to destroy utterly that which they ascended to. [Koranic verse]

Delegation to U.S. Considered

LD082118 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 8 Sep 82

[Text] The Arab summit conference, which was scheduled to conclude its work tonight after 3 days of deliberations, has reached an agreement on a joint peace plan for the Middle East question.

It was learned from sources close to the conference that the final resolutions will not be revealed immediately after the summit ends. Certain sources say the Arab leaders intend to send a committee comprising three representatives to Washington to discuss the Middle East question and acquaint itself with the intentions of the American administration in this respect.

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has called for the withdrawal of the Arab Deterrent Forces from Lebanon in return for financial compensations for his country. Members of the Arab summit have approved this request.

AFP Report

NC091215 Paris AFP in English 1210 GMT 9 Sep 82

[By Rene Naba]

[Text] Fes, Morocco, Sept 9 (AFP) -- Arab leaders including PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat today collectively adopted a document implicitly recognising Israel, according to sources close to the delegations. This decision without precedent in Arab diplomacy would be made public at the end of the closing session of the four-day Arab summit later today, the sources said.

The document was said to be a slightly modified version of the Middle East peace plan proposed last year by then Crown Prince Fahd-now King of Saudi Arabia as a basis for Arab negotiation on a Middle East settlement. Its adoption if confirmed would be a turning point in the attitude of the Arab world towards the Jewish state.

Since the proclamation of Israel in 1948, no Arab country except Egypt has recognised its existence. Moreover, several Arab states notably Saudi Arabia and Iraq have never approved United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338 which until now have served as a legal platform for any Middle East settlement.

The Arab document -- going further than U.S. President Ronald Reagan's recent peace proposals -- calls for the creation of an independent Palestinian state and confirms that the Palestine Liberation Organisation remains the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, the sources said. This reconfirmation of the PLO as exclusive Palestinian spokesman was included at the request of the PLO as a way of proclaiming its continuing leadership despite its eviction from Beirut, the sources said.

President Reagan, in a bid to break the deadlock in the peace process, proposed on Sept 1 the creation of an autonomous Palestinian entity in the West Bank associated with Jordan.

The PLO would not oppose this scheme as long as it did not prove an obstacle to its ultimate aim of creating an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank either federated with Jordan or not, according to the sources.

Diplomatic missions would be sent shortly to inform other governments of the decisions taken in Fes, the sources said.

The Fahd plan implicitly recognises the existence of Israel and its right to live in peace with all other states of the region. The decision of the PLO leader to join in supporting the plan only nine days after being driven from Beirut by Israeli troops, constitutes a political gesture likely to reinforce PLO standing in the United States particularly, observers said.

Meanwhile, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has told the summit that he will withdraw his troops from Lebanon completely if Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis requests him to do so. Mr Sarkis will remain in office until Sept 23 when he will be replaced by President-elect Bashir al-Jumayyil. It was not clear whether President al-Asad's failure to mention Mr al-Jumayyil was a mark of disapproval or if the Syrian leader considered the request more likely to come from Mr Sarkis. President al-Asad, apparently fearing a separate peace between Lebanon and Israel, said his troops should leave Lebanon as part of a withdrawal of all foreign forces.

Libya has not attended the summit.

Ramadan Comments

JN091412 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1310 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Fes, 9 Sep (INA) -- A dispatch from the INA team: Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraq's first vice president and Revolution Command Council member, has said that Iraq is endeavoring to establish a unified Arab stand to serve the interests of the Arab nation.

He said that Iraq believes the necessary common Arab interest can be served even if we have differences, which can be settled at a suitable time. He said this is better than a formal reconciliation between us.

In a statement published in today's edition of the newspaper 'UKAZ, Ramadan explained Iraq's view of the future of the Palestinian issue. He said the Palestinian issue is closely linked to the energies of the Palestinian Revolution and the Arabs. He said the Palestinians are not required to fight alone -- what is required is that the Arab armies fight alongside them. He said Arab solidarity demands that Arab action fall within a strategy in which the Palestinian viewpoint plays a leading role.

Regarding Iraq's viewpoint of Reagan's proposals, the Iraqi official said: We view these proposals as merely a new U.S. position and not a final settlement for our cause. He added: Our viewpoint of these proposals is based on the fact that it is the first time that the United States has presented an integral position on the Palestinian issue despite our stand on this [as received]. He said that in the past the United States had adopted less detailed positions on the Palestinian issue, but that this time it had adopted a more detailed one. He affirmed that these proposals cannot be accepted by the Arabs because they merely represent a new U.S. diplomatic stand.

Regarding the return of Egypt to the Arab fold, Ramadan said the time is not yet ripe for that. He said; I do not believe that Egypt's current situation will enable it to adopt stands that may help it to return to the Arab fold.

Regarding international and Islamic efforts to end the war with Iran, Ramadan affirmed that Iraq does not object to cooperation with any side seeking it. He said Iraq supports any international, local or regional activity in this respect. He explained that Iraq welcomed the Algerian mediation and backed it. He said the Islamic mediation effort did not fail but merely did not achieve the necessary results.

Lebanese Demand

NC092221 Paris AFP in English 2211 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Fes, Morocco, Sep 9 (AFP) -- Lebanon demanded at the Arab summit conference here today a Palestinian pledge to refrain from any military action against Israel from Lebanon, a reliable source said.

The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) agreed to promise that to Arab leaders here, but was unwilling to state this publicly, the source said. The PLO objected to having the commitment mentioned in the summit's final communique or any official summit statement.

Lebanese Minister of State Joseph Abu Khatir warned that his government would not be bound by summit resolutions if the PLO failed to make the pledge.

Most of the discussion at the conference this afternoon was aimed at finding a formula satisfactory to both the PLO and Lebanon. The result of the talks was not yet known as the summit drew to a close.

Numayri 8 Sep Speech

JN092122 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1525 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Excerpts] Fes, 9 Sep (SUNA) -- The following is the text of leader President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri's speech delivered at the 12th Arab summit conference in Fes on the evening of 8 September:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The believers are but a single brotherhood; so make peace and reconciliation between your two contending brothers; and fear God that ye may receive mercy. [Koranic verse]

I would like to express gratitude and appreciation not only for the great hospitality accorded to us in Morocco by Brother King Hassan II and the Moroccan people but also for what I may call the genius, patience and painstaking efforts of King Hassan in facing the difficulties that surrounded the convening of the first stage of the Fes summit and the hardships that befell the summit during its current meetings.

For the first time, we are facing an Israeli invasion which not only desecrates Arab soil but also encroaches on Arab sovereignty. This is the cause of our pain as we find Beirut, the Arab capital, under Israeli occupation. We are facing a war of attrition on two fronts: Lebanon is being exposed to Israeli invasion and Iraq is confronting Iranian threats against its national soil, which we consider as sacred as Jerusalem, the Golan, the West Bank, Gaza or Lebanon. The threats to us are not only represented by Israel and other powers that seek to destroy us, but also by threats to our identity and very existence. The racial and sectarian divisions are also a threat. The south Lebanese region may be taken as an example of the sectarian, cultural and racial ambitions and moves of minorities in the Arab countries.

Truthfully and frankly speaking, we have not given the Palestinian cause and people as much as we have obtained from them. All our differences were reflected in the Palestinian people. We exerted our utmost to polarize their factions and affect them in accordance with our own views. The calls for backing their steadfastness were equalled by calls for trusteeship over them. Instead of unifying our support for the Palestinian people, we attempted to divide their cause by drawing the Palestinian factions toward our various points of view, with some Arab states against some others.

The continued absence of Egypt from the joint Arab action arena can no longer be endured in the current Arab situation. Egypt is neither a mere dense population center, which may or may not contain more than half of the Arab world, nor is it an economic force or political or military weight whose influence can be ignored in the calculation of war and peace; it is, however, a ceaseless benefactor to the Arab nation.

Egypt's efforts in exploiting its international relations and vital interests for the sake of the Palestinian cause and rights have been great. It was able to neutralize the United States by giving it alternative friends in the region, because Israel represented the only friend and ally for the United States. Despite the motives behind the decision to boycott Egypt, certain facts must be taken into account:

Egypt regained a dear part of Arab territory, the Sinai. Egypt also attempted to have the PLO participate in the Cairo conference as a prelude to winning recognition from the other parties concerned with the dispute and restoring usurped Palestinian rights.

The boycott decision created a vacuum in the Arab arena which had well-known negative aspects at a time when Arab unity of ranks was sorely needed. The isolation of Egypt from the Arab arena of joint action has been a new Arab retreat in the face of Israel from a dear Arab territory and a dear Arab capital. The Israeli flag, which was rejected by 20 Arab states, found the field empty in Cairo, the first Arab capital. As a result of the Arab boycott of Egypt, Israel's hand became free there. Instead of developing the pan-Arab feeling and Arab identity of the Egyptian people, attempts to revive sectarian and pharaonic trends in Egypt were made. Thank God, these attempts have not succeeded.

Had the Baghdad summit, which drafted the resolution to boycott Egypt, experienced the initiatives made by the Egyptian leadership and the various institutions of the Egyptian people, it would have hesitated, or rather would have not adopted it. Nevertheless, despite the Arab boycott, Egypt has preserved its name and image. Its name, the Arab Republic of Egypt, remained as it was, unaffected by the boycott.

Had the Baghdad summit, which drafted the boycott resolution, witnessed the changes in the international arena, including Palestinian and U.S. flexibility, the effective Saudi pressures on the U.S. decisionmakers and the European steps against Israeli arrogance; had it witnessed the changes on the international, Arab and regional levels, it would have realized that the boycott resolution would not punish Egypt alone, but all the Arabs, because [Egypt] was moving toward justice and peace. Even if Egypt's moves were ambiguous, they cannot be rectified by isolation or boycott but only by solidarity. Peace can be imposed by either belligerent or nonbelligerent means because a nation's options at curcial times cannot be defined by agreements but only by the fates of generations. [sentence as received]

When we advocate the return of Egypt to the Arab ranks, we do so out of our strong faith in the fact that Egypt belongs to the Arabs and vice versa. This is an indivisible reality as well as an indivisible unity of objectives and fate. The Arab arena is in dire need of Egypt with all its military, human, political and cultural weight, which occupied a prominent sublime position on both the international and regional levels. Egypt will remain a primary axis in all efforts to solve the Palestinian problem, be it by peace or war.

Brother kings and presidents, from my pan-Arab position and affiliation to the Arab nation, rather than my affiliation to an Arab country, Sudan, I do not submit to you a draft resolution for your study preparatory to approving it, amending it or rejecting it, but rather leave it to you to draft a resolution and approve it, because the issue of Egypt's return to joint Arab action is a pan-Arab responsibility in which we all should participate. It is a responsibility that surpasses the present and future of the Arab nation. It is a responsibility of our generation toward future generations that cannot endure the absence of Egypt or the Egyptian people. May God grant you success.

Peace and God's blessing be with you.

Klibi Speech

LD092354 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2223 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Speech by Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi at the final session of the 12th Arab summit conference in Fes -- live]

[Text] In the name of God, the mericiful, the compassionate.

Your Majesty, chairman of the conference,

Your Majesties, Your Excellencies, Your Highnesses, Excellencies:

Now that the 12th Arab conference has ended its work with the adoption of an important group of resolutions and recommendations, there is no doubt that they will be far-reaching in our battle for Arab rights. The world will be assured that the Arab ranks are closed and that the word of the Arab states is one.

This summit has expressed anew the ability of our states to make a unified resolution and to rise to the level of events, to confront the difficulties arising from the aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, and to make resolutions that advance our causes in great leaps. In this way this summit provides the proof that our states do not [word indistinct] before the fateful challenges and that their leaders have wisdom in store capable of enabling them to overcome differences and to concentrate their efforts for the requirements of the pan-Arab, joint Arab action. We are certain that our friends in the world, in view of this Arab concord, which maintains essential matters, expect to transform their friendship to us to actual support for our central cause and to serve the interest of just peace in the region and the world.

Your eagerness to support the Palestinian Revolution by enabling the Palestinian people to have at their disposal all the means of struggle for their legitimate rights, will increase the credibility of Arab solidarity -- as recent events have proved through the struggle to the death -- that the PLO is indeed the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, especially after the determination, wisdom and high spirit of struggle demonstrated by its leadership in the difficult circumstances through which we have all lived. Perhaps this concord will (?make) the enemy (?abandon) its threats and hints of new aggression indicated by the provocations continuing to this day in the Al-Biqa' Valley against Syria, which has faced the successive raids with steadfastness and borne heavy losses.

The interest shown by the summit in bandaging the wounds of beloved Lebanon, which has borne sacrifices beyond capacity for the sake of the Palestinian cause, and the resolution concerning its assisting by continuing its unique role in the Arab family, has closed the gaps through which it was feared the enemy would infiltrate.

Your Majesty, Your Majesties, Your Highnesses, Your Excellencies, Excellencies, allow me to dare to point out that the spirit of [word indistinct], the brave opinion, and the fair and responsible dialogue which have characterized your deliberations make this summit one of the most important witnessed by your league for years. His majesty the conference chairman deserves much credit for this. He administered the work of the conference with his known wisdom and great determination so that dialogue among the brothers should be real, and penetrate the depths of their hearts and the heart of the matters discussed. If the summit has taken this (?long) path in these complicated circumstances, it was performing the duty of being loyal to the martyrs of the war of Lebanon and expresses the solidarity of our states for their struggle for right and dignity at the level of the aspirations of our people.

This, your meeting, will turn a new page of actual solidarity enabling all the Arab family to confront events as one front based on coordination of viewpoints, closer interests and common efforts inside your unified home, your league, to which you have confirmed once again your dear trust and expressed your will that its work serve our nation and its objectives.

Your Majesty, chairman of the conference, one of the most enjoyable duties for me is to express to Your Majesty deep gratitude for the successful personal efforts for the return of unity and the resumption of the Fes conference in this glorious city and for providing this meeting with a suitable climate and for the great success of the 12th Arab summit conference. Thank you, Mr Chairman.

Hassan Speech

LD092342 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2227 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Speech by King Hassan II of Morocco at the final public session of the 12th Arab summit conference in Fes -- live]

[Text] Thanks be to God. Prayers and peace upon the prophet of God and his companions. Your Majesties, Excellencies and Highnesses, and Gentlemen:

When we held our conference last year, and when we departed after a session that lasted only 1 day, everybody abroad, with the exception of us, believed that we had departed, not to return. Indeed, they hoped the Arabs would never meet again, so our opponents and our enemies would succeed in widening the rift among us and consequently fish in troubled waters.

However, God's will and our firm determination to complete our mission and the holy task laid upon the shoulders of us all, the defense of our Arab causes -- foremost among which is the Palestinian cause -- I say God's will and our firm determination enabled us to meet again. God willed that we meet at the greatest level and at the appropriate time.

None of us imagined that the second part of the Fes conference would be coupled with events with no parallel in the history of mankind, events that (?destroyed) families, villages and homes, and destroyed so much with no consideration for women, children or the aged. It was a tragedy and an invasion that showed no respect even for the laws of war and the essential laws of man.

As God says in His holy book: You may abhore something that turns out to be good for you. The catastrophe of Lebanon has come as a shock to us. It was a deeper shock than we had imagined. It not only aroused our feelings and our Arabism but also led us, as you will see, to manifesting Arab ingenuity, which is not content with what was planted before it by civilizations and nations, but which had its own great work in the fields of construction, civilization, mathematics and science and which spread coexistence and tolerance among peoples and races irrespective of their religion or color.

I cannot mention the tragedy of Lebanon and that of the Palestinian people without losing part of something I am always anxious about: to be guided by reason and not to succumb to emotion. As I said to Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and to the Palestinian delegation, I am perhaps sensitive to this issue because I lost my country for over 3 years [as a child he was sent into exile to Madagascar with his father] and at that time I never thought I would return. The thing that made me, my family, and my father, God bless his soul, return was the resistance of the Moroccan people, their loyalty and faith in remaining steadfast whatever the conditions and the situation.

History repeats itself, and you will see, you my Palestinian brothers present here, you will see, Abu 'Ammar, that your resistance inside and outside the occupied land, and our standing, all of us, before you and behind you, to your right and to your left, all this will bring the moment [of returning to the homeland] closer, and all this will make you once again enjoy an unrestricted, dignified and free life in your country and in your homeland.

As is known, our work has lasted long, and instead of 3 days, we gave it 1 day more. Some might say: They added 1 day because they failed to agree. True, before the end of the conference we were not in agreement on some points. Agreement and disagreement were not over matters of principle but over method, regulations, processes and strategies.

The freedom in which our debates took place was, I believe, the deep secret behind the success of our work. Each of us, with skill and wisdom, also with enthusiasm, but with skill and wisdom, managed to express his opinion and declare his view. The fact is that we knew beforehand that what was being said was in the interest of the Arabs, and for the benefit of the Arabs. Furthermore, the day that we added was proof that our awareness had deepened. It was not shameful for awareness to become deeper day after day. Quite the contrary, I consider this a virtue.

Every catastrophe we faced made us wiser, stronger and more cautious than ever before. You will see, in the resolutions you have already heard, that we have become one people and one nation that is not content with taking but seeks give and take, ebb and flow.

In the past we were content with achievements dictated to us or recommended to us by the others. Today, we have succeeded, with respect to the Arab-Israeli conflict, in devising a plan, the studying of which began last year at Fes and has not ended yet. For this reason, we all decided to adjourn the conference and not harm it. We came up with these eight points, which are based on the legitimacy plan of President Habib Bourguiba -- and we are deeply sorry that he is not among us today -- and the plan of King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Those who read these eight points will find in them insight and coordination and will also find them free of demagogy and poetic emotion. They abound with realism and seriousness.

The conference took upon itself the task of raising the voice of Arab right to those active in international circles so all may be made aware of our claims and objectives and see that we ask for nothing other than our legitimate right.

I pray to God to grant success to members of the committee, whose formation will be announced later, and to grant them patience and conviction that will enable them to act properly in defending Arab rights.

Yes, it is true that not everything has been completed with regard to the question of Lebanon. There remain some procedures and measures that have not been included in the resolutions. This is because at the suggestion of Morocco, chairman of the conference for 1 year, we have placed our country, Morocco, at the disposal of our brothers, the Lebanese and Palestinians, so they may meet here to draw up the necessary measures. These measures cannot be laid down in 1 day or in a few hours. God willing, they all will concentrate, driven by good will and true commitment, on solving what I shall not call problems but arrangements and applications of what was agreed upon in Lebanon between the Lebanese Government and the Palestinian organization.

Before concluding my speech, I want to express my profound gratitude to all you brothers for all the things I heard from you and learned from you. I thank you for the efforts you have exerted in your contributions, for your profound care to utter only good and true words and for looking in your dictionaries for noninsolent words and for words that reflect true meanings.

Indeed, we have worked in an atmosphere of friendship and harmony that reminds me of the days when I studied at schools and universities, when I and my colleagues worked on one paper and came out of the test with one voice. Thank God, we have emerged from this test with one voice too.

Truly, a great deal will be said about our resolutions. However, what is important is that our resolutions are like a compass that always points to the objective we are seeking. We know our objective. We have unified our languages. God willing, there will no longer be any room for doubt or error in regard to what we will work for.

True, the road is long and is fraught with hard work and toil. However, our political experience has shown us that in matters of liberation, the first step is the important step. After that, the barriers fall one after another.

I also want to thank our secretary general, Chedli Klibi, and all his aides for the great achievements, efforts and excellent performance which facilitated our task.

It is a source of happiness and reassurance to us that we have decided to hold our next conference near the two holy mosques in Riyadh, as guests of our brother, King Fahd. It will be an extraordinary and historic conference.

I cannot end such work and such efforts other than with thanks and gratitude. God says: If you thank, I will give you even more good things. Therefore, I say: Thanks to God who guided our steps. We would not have been guided had it not been for the guidance of God. Verily, God has said the truth.

God's peace and mercy be upon you.

King Husayn Speech

LD100102 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2246 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Speech by Jordan's King Husayn delivered at the final, public session of the 12th Arab summit conference in Fes -- live]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Your Majesty Brother King Hassan II, king of sister Morocco, Your Majesties, Highnesses, Excellencies, Brother Arab Kings and Presidents:

With your permission, I express profound thanks and deep gratitude to His Majesty King Hassan II and to his dear country, government and people for the noble sentiments and warm reception we have received since our arrival in your generous and hospitable country. We will always remember the manner in which you, Your Majesty, worked night and day for the good of your nation and for the unification of its ranks. We will always remember your tireless efforts to unite the Arab world and to win for it the place it deserves among nations and people. We will always remember -- with the spirit of pride, trust and loyalty -- your wisdom, patience, sincerity and courage in regard to what you see as right and the road for the deliverance of your nation in a spirit of freedom and opinion and responsible dialogue.

The time we have spent in your country will perpetuate the [words indistinct] in our consciences, the glory and noble descent and dear preservation of the Arab and Muslim civilization, which you have kept for us. We will never forget the opportunities you have given us. We will never forget what this meeting signifies: hopes that are dear to us all.

This meeting is a pledge, dear brother, that we will keep your love and the love of your country in our consciences. Our hearts will remain with yours for the glory of our nation and the recovery of its rights in Palestine and in any dear Arab land. Victory and glory for our nation with God's assistance. Peace be upon you.

Numayri Speech

LD092352 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2250 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Speech by Sudanese President Muhammad Ja'far Numayri at the final session of the Arab summit in Fes 9 September -- live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

His Majesty King Hassan II, Brother Majesties, Highnesses and Excellencies:

Allow me to express the sentiments of appreciation and gratitude that I share with you for those efforts that began before the convening of this summit and which will certainly continue thereafter to follow up the implementation of its resolutions. This is in addition to the efforts of the long and fruitful hours of summit meetings. Although we participated in these efforts, the greater burden was shouldered by his majesty, Brother King Hassan II. Thus, while we were his guests he contributed sound leadership, patience and perseverance until, thank God, we reached success.

The efforts of Hassan II, the brother king, is consistent with his gifts to his Arab nation, which has always known him to be in the vanguard of strugglers for the realization of its aims.

It will be recorded for Hassan II and his people and country that he was a leader of an Arab summit that, thank God, has met challenges, difficult circumstances and the rapid changes that it has experienced and continues to experience. Words of thanks, although we cannot thank him enough by such words, are mere affirmation. They place on record that we are all proud of him, an honorable brother who was patient, who persevered, who struggled and who worked hard and gave his time and effort until success was attained by this conference. This success, although we all have taken part in it, is owed to the wisdom of Hassan II, which was a pillar and foundation of this success.

We thank him and his people and feel affection for his homeland and our homeland all in the greater Maghreb. Peace be upon you and the blessings and mercy of God be upon you.

Mzali Speech

LD100026 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2255 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Speech by Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali delivered at the final session of the 12th Arab summit conference in Fes -- live]

[Text] Your Majesty, chairman of the conference, Your Majesties, Your Excellencies, Your Highnesses:

Our 12th conference has been convened in one of the most crucial periods witnessed by the Arab nation. This conference has been one of the most successful summits we have known from the point of view of a deep sense of responsibility, farsightedness, and giving priority to what is most important. This conference has also been one of the most successful because it has been characterized particularly by frankness and tolerance.

This summit has also been distinctive because of the importance of its resolutions and their postiveness. It has once again expressed, and at long last, the unity of the Arab word. This conference would not have been able to reach this magnitude without the joint efforts of all, the contribution of all, the conscience of all, and without the high virtues that characterize His Majesty King Hasan II, the king of fraternal Morocco. He has directed our work with great wisdom and rare flexibility, conferring on it his knowledge and skill, a matter that made us reach the shores of safety despite the difficulties and thorns.

Your Majesty, we have caused you a lot of hardship, but you bore this with patience, openness and faith -- faith in the Arab nation, faith in Arab capabilities, faith in the Arab destiny. Thank you, your majesty. Thank you in my own name and on behalf of all the brothers whom you have honored in your magnificent home. Thank you for your hospitality and kindness. Thanks to the noble people of Morocco for the warm welcome accorded to us. We felt this once again yesterday when the Moroccan people welcomed us -- a welcome by tens of thousands of valiant Moroccans. Finally, we pray to Almighty God to help us all, to light our path, and to guide us on the straightest road.

Final Statement

LD0923C0 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2213 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Final statement of the 12th Arab summit conference at Fes, read by M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of state in charge of foreign affairs -- live]

[Text] The 12th Arab summit conference convened at Fes on 25 November 1981. The conference adjourned its meetings and later resumed them on 6 September 1982, under the chairmanship of King Hassan II of Morocco.

All Arab countries with the exception of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah participated in the conference.

In view of the grave conditions through which the Arab nation is passing and out of a sense of historical and pan-Arab responsibility, their majesties and excellencies and highnesses the kings, presidents and emirs of the Arab nation discussed the important issues submitted to their conference and adopted the following resolution in regard to them.

I. The Arab-Israeli Conflict

The conference greeted the steadfastness of the Palestine revolutionary forces, the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and the Syrian Arab Armed Forces and declared its support for the Palestinian people in their struggle for the retrieval of their established national rights.

Out of the conference's belief in the ability of the Arab nation to achieve its legitimate objectives and eliminate the aggression, and out of the principles and basis laid down by the Arab summit conferences, and out of the Arab countries' determination to continue to work by all means for the establishment of peace based on justice in the Middle East and using the plan of President Habib Bourguiba, which is based on international legitimacy, as the foundation for solving the Palestinian question and the plan of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz which deals with peace in the Middle East, and in the light of the discussions and notes made by their majesties, excellencies and highnesses the kings, presidents and amirs, the conference has decided to adopt the following principles:

1. Israel's withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied in 1967, including Arab Jerusalem.

2. The removal of settlements set up by Israel in the Arab territories after 1967.

3. Guarantees of the freedom of worship and the performance of religious rites for all religions at the holy places.

4. Confirmation of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to exercise their firm and inalienable national rights, under the leadership of the PLO, its sole legitimate representative, and compensation for those who do not wish to return.

5. The placing of the West Bank and Gaza Strip under UN supervision for a transitional period, not longer than several months.

6. The creation of an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

7. The drawing up by the Security Council of guarantees for peace for all the states of the region, including the independent Palestinian state.

8. Security Council guarantees for the implementation of these principles.

II. The Israeli Aggression Against Lebanon

The conference declares its strong condemnation of the Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people, and draws the attention of international public opinion to the gravity of this aggression and its consequences on stability and security in the region.

The conference has decided to back Lebanon in everything that will lead to the implementation of the Security Council resolutions, particularly Resolutions 508 and 509 calling for the withdrawal of Israel from Lebanese territory up to the recognized international borders.

The conference affirms the solidarity of the Arab states with Lebanon in its tragedy, and its readiness to render any assistance it demands to remedy and put an end to this tragedy. The conference has been notified of the decision of the Lebanese Government to end the task of the Arab Deterrent Forces in Lebanon provided that negotiations be conducted between the Lebanese and Syrian Governments to make the arrangements in the light of the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

III. The Gulf War and the Arab Stance Toward It

The conference has studied the situation in the Gulf and observed with great sorrow and pain the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war despite the repeated attempts for a cease-fire and despite the offers of mediation and good officers by the international community. While appreciating the positive initiative by Iraq in withdrawing its military forces to the international borders, on the basis of the principle of solidarity and unity of Arab ranks, and out of the conference's concern that amity, harmony and goodneighborliness prevail between the Arab countries and their neighbors, the conference has decided to declare its committment to defend all Arab territory and to consider any aggression against any Arab country as an aggression against all Arab countries. It calls on the two warring parties to adhere fully to Security Council Resolutions Nos 499 of 1980 and 514 of 1982, and to act for their enforcement. The conference asks all states to abstain from taking any measure that will encourage the continuation of the war directly or indirectly.

IV. The Horn of Africa

The conference has taken note of the submission made by the Democratic Republic of Somalia concerning Ethiopia's incursion into Somalia and the conference has decided:

1. To extend support to the Democratic Republic of Somalia in facing up to the requirements of maintaining its sovereignty over its territory and expelling the Ethiopian forces.

2. That the two countries, Ethiopia and the Democratic Republic of Somalia, respect each other's territorial sovereignty and their independence after the withdrawal of Ethiopia from Somalia.

3. To back peaceful efforts to solve problems between the two sides on these lines.

The conference has decided to set up a committee to hold contacts with the permanent members of the UN Security Council in order to follow up the resolutions of the conference concerning the Arab-Israeli conflict, and to be informed about the respective positions of these states, and the position of the United States, as announced in the last few days regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict. This committee will submit the results of its contacts and endeavors to the kings and presidents regularly. That is all. [applause]

Gulf War Resolution

JN091148 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Fes, 9 Sep (INA) -- The Arab presidents and kings have announced their readiness to carry out their commitments to Iraq in accordance with Article Six of the Arab League Charter and Article Two of the collective Arab defense pact in case Iran fails to respond to the peace efforts and continues its war against Iraq. This was stated in a resolution adopted by the 12th Arab summit conference in Fes.

The kings and presidents expressed their commitment to defend all Arab territories, considering any aggression against any Arab country an aggression against all Arab countries and that all the Arab countries are dutybound to respect and use all available means to safeguard the independence of Arab countries and their territorial integrity and sanctity of their international borders.

The Arab leaders expressed their great regret and deep concern over Iran's failure to positively respond to the international organizations' initiatives on a cease-fire and a peaceful settlement of the conflict through negotiations.

In their resolution, the Arab leaders praised Iraq's positive initiative of withdrawing its forces to the international border.

The following is the text of the resolution adopted by the Arab kings and presidents:

Their majesties, excellencies and highnesses the kings, presidents and princes now meeting within the framework of the 12th Arab summit conference in Fes, Morocco, while noting with deep regret and extreme sorrow the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war despite all the repeated attempts to cease fighting and despite the mediation efforts and good offices by international organizations;

While recalling the call made by the 11th Arab summit conference, which convened in Amman in November 1980, to the two parties to cease fighting immediately and solve the conflict by peaceful means; while recalling the conference's welcome of Iraq's response to the good offices to solve the conflict through negotiations; while recalling the conference's appeal to Iran to respond to such efforts; while noting the conference's call on the two sides to mutually abide by the principles of nonintervention in domestic affairs, respect rights and sovereignty and set up strong relations of good neighborliness;

While highly appraising Iraq's initiative to withdraw its troops to the international border; while expressing their deep apprehension that the continued fighting would surely intensify war ordeals including human victims and material losses, would stop or delay the implementation of development projects, would sap national wealth, would serve the interests of the Zionist-imperialist designs and would gravely harm the Arab nation's interests;

While stressing the need for Arab solidarity and unity of ranks; while realizing their commitments toward the text of Article VI of the Arab League's Charter and Article II of the collective defense pact and economic cooperation among Arab countries;

While recalling UN Security Council Resolutions No 479 of 28 September 1980 and No 514 of 12 July 1982; while proceeding from their faith that an atmosphere of friendship, serenity and good neighborliness should prevail between Arab countries and neighboring countries, they have decided:

1. To declare their collective commitment to defend all Arab land. They consider every attack on any Arab state as an attack on all Arab countries. They also consider that preserving the independence of the Arab countries, the safety of their territories and the inviolability of their international borders as a duty that all Arab countries must respect and work for with all means.

2. To express their deep regret and apprehension for the lack of response to international initiatives to cease fighting and solve the conflict through peaceful means and negotiations.

3. To stress the need that the two combatant sides must fully abide by UN Security Council Resolutions 479 and 514 and to implement these resolutions in a well-coordinated manner.

4. To declare the Arab countries' readiness to implement their commitments toward Iraq in accordance with Article VI of the Arab League Charter and Article II of the Arab collective defense pact and economic cooperation among Arab countries should Iran fail to respond to the provisions of this resolution and continue the war against Iraq and try to violate Iraq's international border and enter its territory.

5. To request all countries to refrain from adopting any measure bound to encourage the continuation of the war, be it directly or indirectly. They also request all Arab countries to exert the necessary efforts to facilitate the implementation of the resolution.

PDRY Leader Departs for CSSR

LD091504 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 8 Sep 82

[Excerpt] PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad left Fes today after having participated in the work of the 12th Arab summit. He went to Czechoslovakia because he had previous medical appointments there. The president of South Yemen was seen off at Fes-Sayis airport by Abdelhaq Tazi, secretary of state for foreign affairs.

PFLP-GC LISTS CONDITIONS TO FREE IDF SOLDIERS

NC091714 Paris AFP in English 1700 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Beirut, Sep 9 (AFP) -- The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command [PFLP-GC] today claimed to be holding the eight Israeli soldiers captured in mountains near here last Saturday.

In a telephone call to Agence France-Presse here, a spokesman for the organization led by Ahmad Jibril said that conditions for the prisoners' release had been forwarded to the International Committee of the Red Cross here.

Red Cross delegate Richard Gauthier had been told that the prisoners would be released under three conditions only, the spokesman added.

Israel, he said, must firstly issue a list of all the Palestinian fighters and civilians it has been holding since its invasion of Lebanon on June 6. Second, it must authorize visits to these prisoners by Red Cross delegates and a report from these officials on how they are treated. Thirdly, Israel must stop the "inhumane treatment, corroborated by international authorities, it inflicts on Palestinians." If this was not done, the spokesman added, "the same treatment will be inflicted on the Israeli prisoners."

DFLP OFFICIAL URGES CONTINUED ARMED STRUGGLE

GF091357 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0900 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Doha, 9 Sep (WAKH) -- Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, assistant secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine has stressed that the Zionists' repeated reference to Jordan as a substitute homeland for the Palestinians is only designed to drive hundreds of thousands of Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip to Jordan. He added that the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples realize the dimensions of this plan and realize the need for total unity in order to foil it.

In a statement published in today's issue of the Qatari paper AL-'ARAB, 'Abd Rabbuh demanded the continuation of Palestinian armed struggle in order to achieve the Palestinian people's national rights. He indicated that armed struggle will always be the basic form of struggle despite the circumstances which we experience. He pointed out: We possess many strengths, the most important of which are the unity of our people, in and outside of the occupied homeland, and their embracing of the PLO.

HANI AL-HASAN HOLDS NEWS CONFERENCE IN KUWAIT

LD091748 Kuwait KUNA in English 1610 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 9 (KUNA) -- A ranking Palestinian official said here Thursday that Palestinian commandos will continue their military and political struggle to foil the U.S.-Israeli designs to subjugate the Middle East region.

Hani al-Hasan, the political adviser to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, told a press conference here this afternoon that Israel has failed in its invasion of Lebanon to destroy the PLO structure. He pledged that the Palestinian commandos will escalate their military operations against Israeli targets inside the occupied Arab territories.

Al-Hasan, who arrived here this week following the withdrawal of the Palestinian commandos from Beirut, said the Beirut battle will motivate the PLO to work out a strategy to define its friends and allies. He added that the PLO will escalate its political and military activities to foil all designs aiming at depriving the PLO of its military victory in the confrontation against the invading Israeli troops.

The Palestinian official affirmed that the PLO will not recognise Israel and said the Palestinian leadership had rejected offers to maintain a political presence in Beirut for certain political concessions including recognizing the U.N. Security Council resolution [words indistinct].

He said that the PLO will also continue its struggle to drive the Israelis out of Lebanon and resist the Israeli expansionist designs. He added that the Palestinians have destroyed the myth of Israel's military supremacy and that the Israelis will think twice in the future before fighting an overall war against the Arabs.

The official did not rule out the possibility of a fresh war with the Israelis in the Al-Biqa' Valley but added that this war decision depends on Palestinian-Syrian coordination. In the meantime, he stressed that the PLO will not withdraw its forces from Al-Biqa' region unless it was a pre-condition for an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Lebanese territories.

The Palestinian official strongly attacked the U.S. administration for its refusal to recognise the PLO and its demands for an independent Palestinian state.

He predicted that the Middle East will not be stable following the Palestinian commandos' withdrawal from Beirut and said the PLO will coordinate with Syria, Jordan, Iraq and the national Lebanese forces to liberate the occupied Arab and Lebanese territories (?under) the Israeli occupation. He charged that Israel had launched its aggression on Lebanon to serve the American interests and said the Reagan administration was determined to continue its plan with the aim of controlling the whole Middle East region.

He said the U.S. administration is not seeking to bring about peace to the Middle East region or to settle its contradictions. On the contrary, it is conspiring the deepen these contradictions to tighten its grip on the oil assets [words indistinct] political systems.

Al-Hasan hailed France as a friendly country to the Palestinian people and Britai' for its positive stands but attacked Germany for its 'double face' policy. He also reaffirmed relations of friendship between the PLO and the socialist bloc especially with The Soviet Union but said that the PLO would start a dialogue with Moscow "to determine the size of aid and intervention which the Soviet are ready to offer so that we could build our strategy on correct calculations". He added that the PLO rejects every form of guardianship by any Arab country and would stress this attitude in talks with the Soviets who have so far refused to deal directly with the organisation. [as received]

LE MONDE ON CONTINUED FEDAYEEN RESISTANCE

PM091555 Paris LE MONDE in French 9 Sep 82 p 3

[Emmanuel Jarry dispatch: "The Syrians are Trying To Prevent the Fedayeen From Drawing Them Into a Conflict With Israel"]

[Text] Shtawrah [no date given] -- It was 0900 hours in an orchard somewhere south of Damascus-Beirut road. The dull throb of a drone came and went in the Al-Biqa' sky. The fedayeen group which had established its headquarters in an abandoned building on the edge of the orchard cautiously took cover under the trees. For the first time in a long time one of those small pilotless Israeli reconnaissance aircraft which the Palestinians nickname "umm Kamal" (Kamal's mother) was overflying Syrian and Palestinian positions.

"Umm Kamal's" indiscretions usually herald shelling or air bombing. This time, however, the Israeli Air Force merely flew past several times, punctuating their passing with sonic bombs. "A warning," a Palestinian Resistance officer commented.

It was Monday. The previous day Israeli Defense Minister Ar'iel Sharon had issued his first warning to Syria, demanding the release of the eight soldiers captured on Saturday in the Lebanese mountains near Bhamdun. The PLO claimed responsibility for that operation in a communique published in Damascus on Tuesday 7 September. Was that the prelude to another "rekindling" of the Al-Biqa' front?

For around 2 weeks there had been virtually no Palestinian commando operations inside Israeli lines from this region. "It was merely a tactical truce to allow the evacuation of Beirut to take place in good conditions. But we will resume our operations soon," the young Palestinian officer asserted.

However, he did not conceal that over the past 2 months the Syrian military has "hindered" the activities of the commandos trying to cross their lines -- actions which south of Al-Biqa' have taken the physical form of erecting earth banks in the newly harvested fields. Those "obstacles" forced the fedayeen to make long detours through the mountains, and commando groups were purely and simply intercepted by Syrian patrols and forced to turn back. The Syrians also set up road blocks on the small roads leading to the front and screened vehicles to prevent any strengthening of the Palestinian positions interwoven into the Syrian lines, which in some cases are only a few hundred meters away from Israeli forward positions, as in the Ghazzah-Mansurah sector, around 10 km southeast of the Damascus road. Recently they also asked the fedayeen to pull back from their most forward positions, especially in the (Loussi), Ghazzah, and Hawsh al-Harim sectors in the eastern part of the plain.

They Do Not Want to Fight

To the west, hidden on the mountainside above Qabb Ilyas, a DFLP unit has succeeded in maintaining a strategic observation post but in exchange was forced to hand over a lower position at the end of difficult "negotiations" 3 weeks ago. "If the Syrians ask us to leave here too we will refuse, and this time we will not discuss the matter," the group leader stressed with determination, stating that he had assured the Syrians his fighters would henceforth carry out their operations behind the Israeli positions and no longer on the cease-fire line.

The Syrians held responsible by the Israelis for the Palestinian guerrilla operations, seem determined to avert any danger of being drawn into a new confrontation. However in the field all indications are they are prepared for any eventuality.

For instance, halfway between the Beirut-Damascus road and Ba'labakk new trenches have been dug with bulldozers in the past few days and tanks and various vehicles are buried in them. These are apparently Arab Deterrence Force units that withdrew from Beirut at the same time as the Palestinians.

The PLO fighters, who no longer feel bound by the Syrian-Palestinian 11 June Al-Biqa' cease-fire agreement, made no secret of their irritation. "The Syrians do not want to fight," a young Palestinian, who only 3 months ago was still a student in an eastern bloc country, stated bluntly. What will happen to the Resistance in Al-Biqa' if the Syrian troops withdraw? "We will pursue our struggle here underground with the aid of the Lebanese National Movement," one of his comrades, who was one of the last to leave Beirut at the end of August, replied with a degree of optimism. He returned to Lebanon as an unarmed civilian without the Syrians' knowledge, he stated. According to him his is not an isolated case.

'ARAFAT RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM KIM IL-SONG

GF060940 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1815 GMT 5 Sep 82

["Text" of message to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat from Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Korean Workers Party Central Committee -- date not given]

[Text] Esteemed Chairman Comrade:

I would like to express firm solidarity with all strugglers of the Palestinian Resistance who are untiringly struggling and courageously overcoming the austere ordeals which the Palestinian Revolution is facing.

I send my warm struggling regards to you, my dear friend. During this period, the PLO and the strugglers of the Palestinian Revolution fought courageously against the barbarous armed aggression and the widescale massacre perpetrated by Zionism in collusion with U.S. imperialism. You have honorably protected the national dignity of the Palestinian people.

Despite the fact that the Israeli invaders have used modern military equipment and lethal weapons in beleaguering west Beirut for a long period of time and have committed several atrocious and vicious acts in order to eliminate the Palestinian Revolution and the PLO once and for all, they could not subdue the strugglers of the Palestinian Resistance and achieve their wicked goal.

We highly appreciate the valiant struggle of the Palestinian people and the Resistance's strugglers against U.S. imperialism and the Israeli aggressors under your wise command.

Esteemed Chairman Comrade, although you have lost a great deal in this war and have had to leave your positions in Beirut, the PLO, which is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and its revolutionary armed forces have become seasoned and experienced through struggle and have won support and sympathy from the world's peoples -- a matter that elevated the international esteem and prestige of the PLO.

In contrast, the Israeli Zionists and U.S. imperialism, which incited them, have revealed their true faces to the world as more criminal, more insolent, and more thievish. They have been strongly denounced and have become completely isolated by the world's peoples. This shows that you have achieved victory politically and morally.

No matter how many temporary difficulties the PLO and the Palestinian people face today, if they take hold of their own destiny more prestigiously, close ranks, and continue to struggle courageously, in the future they will achieve the greatest final victory. As long as the Palestinian people live, the flame of the Palestinian Revolution will not be extinguished.

We insistently stress the trend that the hostile actions perpetrated by U.S. imperialism and Zionists in the Middle East should be stopped, the evacuation of Israeli invaders from the occupied Arab territories be done completely, and the restoration of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to return to their homeland and ensure their independent state as soon as possible be secured.

During the latest war in Lebanon we made every possible effort to support and back the just cause of the Palestinian and Arab peoples. The DPRK Government and people will firmly stand beside the Palestinian people and the struggling Arab peoples in the future. The DPRK Government and people with all their power, support and back your struggle for restoring the territories and achieving national liberation, sovereignty and independence.

Finally, I cordially hope that your struggle and the struggle of the Palestinian people will continue for the victory of the Palestinian cause. Wishing you health, accept my respect and appreciation.

[Signed] Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Korean Workers Party Central Committee.

KUWAIT

SALAH KHALAF ARRIVES FOR TALKS 9 SEPTEMBER

LD091806 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1405 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Kuwait, 9 Sep (KUNA) -- Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf arrived in Kuwait today on a private visit for a few days. During the visit he will meet with Kuwaiti officials to discuss the current situation.

AL-WATAN ON 31 AUGUST DOWNING OF SYRIAN MIG

GF091354 Doha QNA in Arabic 1140 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Kuwait, 9 Sep (QNA) -- The Kuwaiti paper AL-WATAN today carries a report from Beirut that the ships of the U.S. 6th Fleet which roam the Mediterranean, opposite the Lebanese coast, were responsible for downing the Syrian MiG-25 fighter over Beirut on 31 August. The paper points out the fighter was not downed in a dogfight with the Israeli warplanes as reported earlier. The paper says three Israeli Phantom warplanes intercepted the Syrian fighter as it was returning from a reconnaisance mission and forced it to go in the direction of the Mediterranean where the ships of the U.S. fleet fired a sophisticated Hawk missile that downed it near Beirut. The paper also indicates that a number of these sophisticated Syrian fighters had flown over occupied Palestine and Lebanon without being detected by the Israeli warplanes or aerial defense systems, and that is why contacts and coordination were established between U.S. 6th Fleet radar systems and the Israeli forces in Lebanon and the occupied Arab territories, which resulted in the downing of this warplane.

SAUDI ARABIA

INTERIOR MINISTRY SOURCE ON IRANIAN DEMONSTRATION

LD101212 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] A responsible source at the Interior Ministry has stated the following:

This morning, 10 September 1982, before the Friday prayers, several thousand Iranian pilgrims assembled in front of the Iranian mission at the invitation of the mission leader, (Mohammad Husayn Mawsawi), who made a speech containing political references that are outside the rites of pilgrimage and that disturbed the pilgrims of the house of God and the visitors to the prophet's Mosque.

The security authorities intervened to disperse them and to take away the signs and portraits they were carrying. We regret that this has happened again, disturbing the comfort of all pilgrims in the holy place, the comfort of which the state has done its utmost to make available. May God guide us to success.

RADIO COMMENTARY ASSESSES FES SUMMIT RESULTS

LD091420 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 9 Sep 82

["News analysis" by Khalid Muhammad Bashawayh]

[Text] The basic evaluation that [word indistinct] the outcome of the Arab leaders' Fes meeting is the fact that Arab harmony now surrounds the Arab reality, driving all capabilities and means in the form of joint action toward bringing peace to the region, since the indications from the Fes summit and the agreement by the Arab leaders on a unified formula of an Arab plan that contains the elements of peace in the region clearly show an Arab sense of responsibility has imposed itself above all the challenges and above some of the differences in the Arab arena.

In our opinion, the Arab leaders' agreement on a unified peace plan in the region is only the other side of an agreement on consolidating Arab relations in preparation for a future political action to enable the unified plan to gain acceptance and conviction among international circles and the forces linked with the peace process in the region.

In an atmosphere of genuine Arab fraternity and sincerity based on responsibility, the Fes summit has succeeded in transporting the whole Arab nation from the legacies and challenges of the past to a present that contains the signs of a future when problems are resolved and right restored to its owners on the basis of justice and in a comprehensive manner.

The Fes summit was up to the level of events if not more. It succeeded in meeting very many of the demands in the current phase of Arab history, since agreement on a unified peace plan for the region makes the world ready to deal henceforth with the cause of peace in the region in accordance with the comprehensive picture and the basic rules which have often been requested by peace-loving forces.

The Arab summit is an expression of continued Arab strength despite all circumstances. It is also an expression of the significant and remarkable development in Arab political thinking when dealing with the grave issues and problems that threaten the peace and security of the region.

It goes without saying that the enhanced Arab confidence in common relations and the opening of new pages of collective action, based on settling differences and clearing the air, are bound to force those who intend to blacken the cause of peace in the region to declare clearly their stand on the demands of peace and stability and also on the Arab stand which has been declared strongly, openly and comprehensively. The Arab leaders in Fes certainly did not consider the stand of the languid and weak; they gave priority to the interest of the Arab nation and to the method of embarking on unified dealing with the international community in order to support the Palestinian cause and to open new outlets that realize for the Palestinian people their sought future of an independent state on their territory and self-determination.

In the face of the continued challenges to the Arab nation through circumstances and events experienced by the region, the Arab leaders were expected to rise to the responsibility of succeeding with intensified efforts in inspiring every Arab heart with confidence to the effect that the era of (?complete) action based on full agreement and deep conviction has begun so that peace and security may be established throughout the region.

Israel's persistence in its rejection of the principles of real peace is not important. The strength of the Arabs -- and behind them the international community which has exposed the reality of the Zionists -- is bound to be able to impose peace with all means, since the most Tel Aviv has feared throughout the Arab-Zionist conflict is Arab solidarity and unified Arab ranks surrounded by international trends strongly supporting Arab rights, primarily Palestinian rights.

The Arab leaders in Fes have managed to achieve something which can withstand many challenges. Before agreeing to a unified political document through which they can deal with the world, they agreed on Arab harmony which will be very effective when tackling the future of the region. Most important is the fact that the phase of differences among the Arab forces that influence Middle East events has ended; the signs of unified political confrontation to impose peace have appeared with all positive evaluations and measures.

PDRY

'ALI 'ANTAR ISSUES DECISION ON ACCORD WITH IRAN

GF091857 Aden ANA in Arabic 1435 GMT 9 Sep 82

[TEXT] Aden, 9 Sep (ANA) -- Brother 'Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar, member of the Political Bureau, deputy chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium [as received] and first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, issued the Supreme People's Council decision regarding ratification of the trade agreement between the PDRY and Iran signed in Tehran.

The first item requires the ratification of the decree [words indistinct] the second, third and fourth article of the decision, the [word indistinct] of this decree (?according) to law, effective on the date of its issuance and publication in the official journal.

ARAB STATES CONTACT MUBARAK DURING FES SUMMIT

NC092218 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2150 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Cairo, 9 Sep (MENA) -- AL-AHRAM says the Arab states have been in touch with President Husni Mubarak during the meetings of the Arab summit conference, which is being held in Fes. In its Friday issue, AL-AHRAM adds that Egypt has been apprised of the most important results of the summit meetings.

MUBARAK TO DISCUSS U.S. PEACE PLAN IN PARIS

NC100722 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0655 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] Cairo, 10 Sep (MENA) -- A responsible Egyptian source has stated that President Husni Mubarak's talks in Paris, which will complement his talks in Belgrade and Bucharest, are basically aimed at giving momentum to the peace march. Publishing this report today, AL-AHRAM says that in these talks Egypt had pointed out what it will emphasize in the Paris talks: that there are positive elements in the U.S. initiative that must be exploited in the interest of peace and the continuation of the negotiations process to reach a solution to the Palestinian people's problem.

The source added that the recent developments prompted President Husni Mubarak to meet with President Mitterrand to make a joint assessment of the U.S. initiative. The talks will also deal with placing the Egyptian-French plan on the agendas of the Security Council and the United Nations before the UN General Assembly begins its meetings in New York the last week of September.

MUBARAK HOLDS BELGRADE PRESS CONFERENCE 8 SEP

NC081320 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1122 GMT 8 Sep 82

[Press conference held by President Husni Mubarak in Belgrade on 8 September at the conclusion of his visit to Yugoslavia; on -- live]

[Text] [Mubarak] I really would like to say that I am very pleased with my visit to the friendly and dear state of Yugoslavia -- a state with which we have been linked by relations for a long time and the leader of which was one of the mainstays in the establishment of the Nonaligned Movement. I, of course, thank the government and people for the warm and friendly welcome accorded me during this brief visit. I take this opportunity to say that Egypt and Yugoslavia must move and become active in the Nonaligned Movement -- the movement which established a strong link between us from the beginning. I also extend my thanks to the brother chairman of the Presidium and the members of the government for the love and friendliness I received from them during this visit. Thank you. Any questions?

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] Really, the question is significant. [Words indistinct] the answer to it frankly. However, all I can say is that the Nonaligned Movement today requires a strong push and requires initiative in order not to deviate from its principal aims and to keep away from polarization or alignment. Therefore, it requires initiative and continuous movement to continue on the line this movement has established.

[Question] Mr President, [words indistinct] do you expect to hold contacts with the third Nonaligned Movement founder, India? On what level and where?

[Answer] Actually, we cannot forget that the founders of the Nonaligned Movement were Tito, 'Abd an-Nasir and Nehru in India. We cannot forget that India is one of the main pillars of the Nonaligned Movement. We are maintaining contacts with India. [Word indistinct] sent an invitation to the Indian prime minister. I think that the nonaligned conference, which was scheduled to be held in Baghdad this month, has been postponed because of certain circumstances which you are aware of and will be held in the third capital, in India, around March. I may hold a meeting with the Indian prime minister before this conference, if not, then during the conference and after it. Close contact must be maintained between us and India, because it is one of the main pillars of the Nonaligned Movement.

[Question] Mr President, the Fes Arab summit conference is about to end and has recommended the dispatch of a delegation to Washington composed of a number of heads of state. What is your excellency's opinion about this move and what will be Egypt's position if if is invited to take part in future summit conferences?

[Answer] We do not object at all and have no objection that the Fes summit conference should end with the dispatch of three heads of state or representatives or whoever they want to Washington to help solve the Middle East problem. We welcome any effort to solve the problem. We shall never make the solution of the problem an Egyptian monopoly. Egypt says it is helping and is exerting its utmost efforts and is continuing with this effort. By God, if there are efforts by other sides we will be happy. What matters is that in the end we achieve a just and comprehensive solution of the problem. This is what we want. However, if Egypt was invited [to attend a summit conference], this subject should be left until the time comes. It will be the subject of our study and consideration, according to the prevailing conditions.

[Question] Will you, Mr President, be kind enough to shed some light on the talks which you held here with the Yugoslav officials?

[Answer] I can tell you in brief that our talks with Yugoslavia were very constructive. We exchanged views on all international positions and events, particularly current world events. There is a partial identity on most views regarding these issues. We also talked about bolstering the Nonaligned Movement and the importance of reviving this movement. We exchanged views on it and ways to make it more active. We then talked about bilateral relations and the start of reciprocal visits between Yugoslavia and Egypt for the two countries' mutual interests.

[Question] Mr President, [words indistinct] what was the effect of this visit on economic and military relations?

[Answer] Regarding military relations, there is a continuing military sphere [of cooperation], which has never stopped since the beginning of our relations with Yugoslavia. It is continuing up to this moment. There is the development of some military industries which we previously agreed upon. As for the economic sphere, there are some economic projects and activities between the two countries. During the talks, we agreed to expand economic cooperation to a larger volume than exists now. Of course, this will affect both countries' economies.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] We leave this subject to the movement's leaders and the presidents to agree on.

I cannot tell you what steps I can undertake publicly and unilaterally. What you are asking for is considered a working paper. A working paper is supposed to be prepared for submission to the next nonaligned summit conference;

[Question] Mr President, Egypt received U.S. President Reagan's proposals and expressed its opinion [words indistinct] the positive aspect [words indistinct]. What was Yugoslavia's opinion of this initiative and what joint efforts will be exerted for the good of the (?Palestinian) issue?

[Answer] If there is an answer to this question, then I can speak for myself and for our country. There are many views and many positive aspects in the U.S. President's initiative. This is an encouraging thing, in our opinion. I believe they share this view. If you want their full view, then this question must be addressed to the Yugoslav side. I do not speak in anybody's name. There are positive points in the initiative and there are some remarks to be made about it. We do not expect the initiative to be 100 percent positive from the very first moment. This is not possible. We have experience in this regard and even in negotiations with Israel. However, we must encourage the U.S. side to continue because it is possible to find a solution to the negative aspects and remarks at the negotiating table. However, there is no reason for an outright rejection. It would be wrong to reject the initiative outright because we would be committing a mistake which we would only feel in the future.

[Question] [Words indistinct] Egypt's position since the Israel invasion of Lebanon, and Egypt's position on the Palestinian issue? What was the effect of this on the Yugoslav side?

[Answer] We have discussed all the steps the Arab Republic of Egypt has taken since the beginning of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. I explained in detail all the steps we have taken to the Yugoslav side. The Yugoslav side supports indeed all the steps we have taken in this regard because there is no other alternative.

[Question] Mr President, some changes can be noticed in Egyptian policy. Is it possible to expect sooner or later a change in relations between Egypt and the other Arab states?

[Answer] The brother's question is clear and the answer to it is easy. We in the Arab area by nature get angry with each other and then make up. This is the Arabs' nature, it is not new. We get angry for a while and then become reconci'ed. Yet in the end we go back to each other. In time of trouble, we go back to each other. What happened between Egypt and the Arab nation I consider incidental for reasons I do not want to discuss. However, I think the atmosphere between Egypt and its Arab brothers is now quiet. I do not expect our relations with any Arab state to worsen, but I expect better relations in the future, God willing.

PRESIDENT MUBARAK CONTINUES VISIT TO ROMANIA

8 Sep Banquet Speech

NC082045 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1905 GMT 8 Sep 82

[Speech by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak at banquet given in his honor by Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu on 8 September -- recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate. Dear friend President Ceausescu, Mrs Ceausescu, dear friends:

For the second time we return to your friendly country with hearts filled with love and cordiality to meet with the Romanian people and their wise leadership, to strengthen the bridges of friendship and cooperation, to exchange views on all the international and bilateral affairs which interest both of us and are linked to international security and peace at this critical stage in the history of our time. These things place on our shoulders massive burdens and responsibilities and multiply our feelings to work tirelessly to set up a better world for the future generations -- our children and grandchildren -- amidst these tumultuous waves of conflict, tension and anxiety.

The fact that the challenge is massive does not weaken our determination to confront this massive responsibility with all steadfastness, confidence and hope -- we do not have any other choice. Also, history affirms the inevitability of the victory of the people's will. The strenuous experiences mankind has undergone throughout the centuries have taught us that peace is the course of the peoples and of the future, and that our collective responsibility is, in the final analysis, the implementation of progress and development; changing the picture of life and advancing with steady steps toward what is better; and setting up a new international society in which solidarity replaces conflict, cooperation replaces bitter competition and homogeneity replaces differences, a future in which the will of peace overcomes the whims of war and destruction.

Our two peoples have been able, through their deep sense of history and their realization of the dimensions of the responsibility, to provide a good example to be emulated in cooperation and solidarity among struggling peoples in the service of peace, freedom and progress, and to set up firm bases for understanding and interaction among all peace-loving powers who believe there is one challenge facing the human race and who are capable of building a solid basis for cooperation among nations, regardless of differences in political and economic orders and social philosophies, and regardless of the contradictions that appear at certain stages among self-interests, because all these things should not and do not negate the great truth -- the oneness of the destiny of the human race. We should also not forget that the future is filled with hope and expectations.

Mr President, you have played a prominent role in laying the foundations of this cooperation and its development with your enthusiasm for consultations, by extending bridges of communications and by giving priority to cooperation with the states participating with your country in waging the battle of progress and reconstruction. Our departed leader President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat took great pride in the strong relationship that grew between you two -- a relationship which has had a clear effect on cooperation between the two countries in all domains. I too take great pride in the relationship linking us on the basis of my profound appreciation of your sound ideas, wisdom, courage and all-embracing historical view, and of your outstanding ability to face responsibility, to rise to the level of events and to deal with the realities of the age.

Dear friend, President Nicolae Ceausescu. The world is now experiencing events which impede the process of peace and progress, increase tension and shake confidence in the future. The efforts of the peace-loving forces must be concentrated to confront these negative phenomena and to tackle them very resolutely and firmly before their results and complications exacerbate and constitute a long-term threat to the international system we set up in the wake of World War II and on which we pinned great hopes to do away with wars as a means for resolving international disputes and for achieving national demands.

The Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the aggression the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples have been subjected to without any justification constitute a regrettable step backward, a return to concepts which the international community has banned, a serious violation of the spirit of peace and a flagrant defiance of the feelings of the peoples who are aspiring for a new dawn to break which will [word indistinct] the past, ensure the present and augur a better future.

It would be wrong for anyone to imagine that what has happened can terminate the Palestinian people's existence or smash their will or put an end to their hopes for liberation and a secure and peaceful life. History has taught us that the peoples' will grows stronger and more determined in confronting suppression, aggression and oppression and that the will to live will inevitably triumph, whatever the challenges and obstacles.

From the outset of the war, Egypt drew attention to the need for concentrating on the Palestinian issue, as it is the crux and core of the dispute and the starting point in an comprehensive settlement. Therefore, we must tackle it with a radical solution which deals with all its aspects -- its political and human aspects. This issue is no longer a mere problem of refugees who multiply in the wake of military confrontations, but has become primarily a political problem involving the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to establishing their national entity on their territory like every other nation and people. Against this, the Palestinian people would recognize Israel's right to exist. With this, a sound basis is secured for coexistence.

Peace cannot be established through invasion, domination and expansion nor in accordance with the concepts of superiority and military capability; it can be established and can prosper under the canopy of legitimacy and the rule of the law and mutual respect as well as on the basis of readiness by every party to shoulder its responsibility and honor its duties. Therefore, peace is a legal and moral commitment and not a mere invention and reiteration of slogans. Every party must prove that it is serious in seeking the establishment of peace and that it is competent to shoulder the immense burdens and responsibilities of peace with deeds, words and good intentions.

It is the duty of international society to direct all of its capabilities in the coming months to achieving a just and comprehensive settlement which gives every side its legitimate rights. This requires expanded negotiations in which the sides concerned participate, including the representatives of the Palestinian people, who must participate in the efforts of the settlement. No one has the right to speak on their behalf or to promise anything in their stead. When the first step on the course to putting an end to the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip is implemented, it becomes ascertained that other more substantial steps will follow in which there will be room for more comprehensive international participation.

A few days ago, the United States presented some ideas that might help in pushing the situation toward a solution. Its affirmation of the principles stated in Security Council Resolution 242 and its recognition that security cannot be achieved through the occupation of others' territory and building settlements in it, but rather within the framework of commitment to rights and duties. Thus, we believe that to serve peace, all the sides should give this initiative a chance to create the appropriate atmosphere to conclude an honorable solution which may take the region back to the fraternal traditions of coexistence between Arabs and Jews and guarantee the elimination of tension, instability and fear.

It should not be forgotten that the Israeli forces should withdraw immediately from the Lebanese territory.

That is because the occupation can only result in violence, more tension and hatred. Also, it is not Israel's right to interfere in Lebanon's affairs and impose its will on it. Its right should be limited to asking for the implementation of acceptable measures to guarantee mutual security on both sides of the border. This issue cannot be resolved under occupation and through the use of force.

Meanwhile, it is the duty of the peace-loving powers to do their best to put an end to the Iran-Iraq war -- a war that does not benefit or confer good to any of the region's peoples and no one will come out of it either victorious or defeated. We register here with appreciation the positive step taken by Iraq when it withdrew its forces from Iranian territory and announced the end of the war and the commitment to the international agreements which define the borders between the two countries and its abidance by the provisions of the law.

Dear friends: We are proud and we derive pleasure from the firm ties that exist between us. We are doing our best to deepen these ties and to increase the cooperation between the two countries in all domains on the basis of mutual interest and the many possibilities for further cooperation and interaction.

It gives me pleasure to extend an invitation to my dear friend President Ceausesou and his wife to visit Egypt and continue consultations on all important international and bilateral matters. Allow me to ask you to stand in honor of President Nicolae Ceausescu, his wife, the firends present here, all the dear Romanian people and the Egyptian-Romanian friendship. Thank you. [applause]

Further Talks With Ceausescu

NC091128 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1100 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Bucharest, 9 Sep (MENA) -- The second round of official talks between Egypt and Romania were held at the Romanian president's summer headquarters at 1200 Cairo time today. These talks were confined to Presidents Nicolae Ceausescu and Husni Mubarak.

President Mubarak arrived at President Ceausecu's summer headquarters in the Snagov area, some 30 km from Bucharest at 1100. As soon as President Mubarak arrived, he and the Romanian president, who recieved him, began touring an experimental farm attached to the summer headquarters, where they saw its produce of various fruits, vegetables and corn.

President Mubarak is scheduled to return to Bucharest at 1800. President Mubarak left the Romanian capital for Snagov at 1030. Masses thronged both sides of the road to greet him and cheered the Romanian-Egyptian friendship.

MUBARAK GREETS DPRK'S KIM IL-SONG ON ANNIVERSARY

NC091136 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1055 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Cairo, 9 Sep (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak has sent a cable of congratulations to His Excellency DPRK President Kim Il-song on the anniversary marking the DPRK's establishment. The following is the text of the cable:

It pleases me to send you in my name and on behalf of the people of the Arab Republic of Egypt heartfelt congratulations on the anniversary of the DPRK's establishment. I am sure that the close relations linking our friendly countries will witness further development in their interest and in the service of world peace and security. I send you my best regards and wishes for good health and happiness. I wish your friendly people further progress and prosperity under your wise leadership. With my best respect and appreciation.

PAPERS DISCUSS U.S. PLAN, ISRAELI REJECTION

8 Sep Commentaries

NC082316 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2215 GMT 8 Sep 82

[From the press review]

[Text] Cairo, 8 Sep (MENA) -- In their commentaries today, Cairo papers deal with the recent U.S. proposals on (?the situation) in the Middle East and the Israeli reaction to them.

In this regard, AL-AHRAM reports that since the U.S. initiative [was announced], there have been indications of escalation of tension between Washington and Tel Aviv. However, previous experiences in this regard have affirmed that this escalation never lasts long -- it quickly vanishes after a round of contacts, letters and visits.

The paper explains that although there are aspects worthy of praise in the U.S. initiative [words indistinct] in the right direction through putting an end to the building of settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip immediately, the Israeli direct response following its instant rejection of the whole initiative was building more settlements and as quickly as possible. The paper says the U.S. response to the Israeli response is the possible postponement of the shipment of sophisticated F-16 fighters to Israel for a longer period of time.

The paper indicates that if we consider the appearance of this escalation and what happened at the time the Iraqi nuclear reactor was dealt a blow and the postponement of a similar shipment [words indistinct] for several weeks, we could say that the United States is allowing Israel to freely blow up the initiative -- every letter of it. Yet if the principles of justice stipulate that the punishment corresponds to the act or to the degree of the act, the U.S. punitive moves, as they seem to be at the moment, are not at all in proportion to the volume of the Israeli rejection or to its method of dominating the U.S. administration, especially because it comes as an expression of exceptional arrogance resulting from the extreme U.S. leniency toward the bestiality of the Israeli aggression against Lebanon.

AL-AHRAM affirms that if the U.S. inaction in facing Israel continues -- at war and at peace -- then the Israeli arrogance may undertake more provocative measures in the West Bank and Gaza, which may lead to what happened last March and April -- popular uprisings which will justify to Israel the final annexation it has been waiting for. In its conclusion, the paper wonders: Will the United States be capable of deterring this great confontation when it is unable now to face this minor confrontation?

AL-AKHBAR expresses its astonishment and surprise at the rejectionist stance adopted by Israel toward the U.S. peace proposals. It says that this stance arouses many exclamations among political observers in the world capitals. The paper adds that the bewilderment in the world capitals at the Israeli rejection derives from the fact that the side which introduced these proposals is the United States -- the mediator that Israel previously accepted for implementing peace in the region. More important is that the initiative which was presented by U.S. President Ronald Reagan has not overlooked the security issued which Israel deems vital. Also, the United States itself is the only state that cannot be considered an adversary of Israel. The paper goes on to say: From this derives the U.S. officials' bewilderment at Israel's rejection, which U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has expressed, saying he cannot understand why Israel rejects the proposals and that he does not understand why Israel rejects peace.

AL-AKHBAR expresses its belief that the only possible interpretation of the Israeli rejection is that the Israeli leaders are using the security issue as an excuse to achieve their ambitions in the region, which casts heavy shadows of doubt on the seriousness of Israel's intention to follow the path of peace to its end. In this regard, the paper indicates that the concept of peace and security for the Israeli leaders has been embodied in Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's saying that President Reagan's initiative constitutes a blow to Israeli security, and Israeli Defense Minister Sharon's saying that the invasion of Lebanon is the thing that achieved peace for Israel.

AL-AHRAR 7 Sep

PM091423 Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 7 Sep 82 pp 1, 2

[Mustafa Kamil Murad article: "Reagan and His Scepter"]

[Excerpts] President Reagan, with his scepter or his authority as the president of the world's biggest [as published] state, has presented the Arabs and the world with an initiative aimed at establishing a just and lasting peace in the Arab region of the Middle East. President Reagan's initiative is undoubtedly a historic, objective, constructive and bold step toward a compromise solution between the Arabs and Israel. It is full of positive aspects such as the Palestinian people's right to self-rule, the call for Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories, the call on the PLO to recognize and negotiate with Israel, and the assertion that the normalization of relations and the building of confidence between Israel and the Arabs is the basis of peace.

The Liberal Party certainly has some observations regarding this initiative. They can be summed up in the following:

1. In his initiative President Reagan ignored the Palestinian people's right to self-determination which, in addition to being mentioned in the Camp David agreement, is a basic right for all peoples of the world.

2. He rejected the principle of a Palestinian state, which also runs contrary to the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

However, the Liberal Party believes that President Reagan's initiative is a positive and constructive step toward opening the door wide to both Israel and the Arabs to settle all, or at least most differences through negotiations. This is why the Liberal Party calls on the PLO, the Egyptian Government and Arab governments to think deeply and realistically in a logical and civilized manner so President Reagan's positive initiative will not be wasted and so the chance of peace will not remain an unattainable dream.

Anyone who studies U.S. political and social conditions will be fully aware that President Reagan was very courageous to present this initiative, which could cost him his political future. He has entered history through its widest gate and has bravely taken the initiative to promote a just and lasting peace in the most sensitive region in the world, where political and military upheaval could expose the world to a catastrophe from which nobody will be safe. So this is Reagan, the man with the scepter and president of the American state.

AKHBAR AL-YAWM 4 Sep

PM081109 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 4 Sep 82 p 8

[Chief Editor Ibrahim Sa'dah article: "The U.S. Initiative"]

[Excerpts] In his speech the day before yesterday, U.S. President Ronald Reagan acknowledged two important facts which, for many years in the past, the United States ignored and refused to recognize.

The first fact is that the military losses inflicted on the PLO in the latest war in Lebanon have not destroyed the Palestinian people's aspiration for a just fulfillment of their demands. The second fact noted by the U.S. President in his speech -- and this is the more important and the clearer of the two facts -- is that the Israeli military victories in Lebanon, which demonstrated that the Israeli armed forces are the mightiest in the region, have failed to achieve the desired peace. The acknowledgement of the two facts was perfectly timed.

President Reagan did not only admit the facts. He offered the beginning of what he believes to be a possible solution striking a compromise between Israel's legitimate security demands and the Palestinian people's lgitimate rights. Reagan urged negotiations with the participation of all parties as soon as possible and before the opportunity which presented itself after the cease-fire in Lebanon is lost.

Reagan told Israel that "security can only be achieved through genuine peace, a peace requiring magnanimity, vision and courage." He told the Palestinians: "Your political aspirations are inextricably bound to recognition of Israel's right to a secure future." He told all the Arabs: "I urge you to accept the reality of Israel -- and the reality that peace and justice are to be gained only through hard, fair, direct negotiation."

So, the U.S. messages reached their destinations. The Israelis rejected the U.S. initiative, claiming that it is biased in the Arabs' favor. The PLO announced that it would study and assess the U.S. initiative before making a decision on it. Some Arabs have accepted and welcomed it while other Arabs rejected it outright without even studying it and, as usual, accused Reagan of siding with the Israelis.

There is no need for outright rejection or unreserved acceptance. The new U.S. ideas should be open to discussion and dialogue among the Arab governments. The PLO view should be heard because before any other since the matter concerns the Palestinian people, for whom the PLO speaks. Every side has the right to discuss, debate, argue, accept one clause or reject another, suggest an amendment or add a phrase which may or may not be acceptable to the others. The point is that everything Reagan can do now has been included in his latest speech. He has offered us and Israel a number of ideas and proposals which he considers acceptable and suitable for discussion in direct negotiations.

Reagan has said what he has to say, and it is up to us to say what we think of his offer.

ROMANIAN DEPUTY MINISTER ARRIVES IN CAIRO 7 SEP

NC071422 Cairo MENA in English 1412 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Text] Cairo, 7 Sep (MENA) -- The Romanian deputy defence minister [Gen Vasile Milea] arrived here today for a week-long official visit to Egypt at the invitation of the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Lt. Gen 'Abd Rabb an-Nabi Hafiz.

The Romanian deputy defence minister, who is also the chief of staff of the armed forces headed, following his arrival, to the Armed Forces Headquarters accompanied by General Hafiz, where he was formally welcomed. The Romanian official, later, proceeded to the memorial for martyrs where he laid a wreath on the late leader Anwar as-Sadat's tomb [and] on the tomb of the unknown soldier.

SADDAM HUSAYN RETURNS FROM FES SUMMIT 10 SEP

JN100637 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0630 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Sep (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn returned here early today after heading the Iraqi delegation to the 12th Arab summit conference, which ended in Fes last night.

On his way back home, President Saddam Husayn made a brief visit to Algeria during which he held a 90-minute closed meeting with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid at Houari Boumedienne Airport. President Saddam Husayn was accorded an official welcome and send-off led by President Chaldi Bendjedid and ranking Algerian officials.

NAVY, AIR FORCE SINK IRANIAN 'NAVAL TARGETS'

8 Sep Attack

JN090703 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0630 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Sep (INA) -- An Iraqi military spokesman has announced that an enemy naval target was destroyed last night. In a statement to INA, the spokesman said that the Iraqi naval units destroyed and sank the naval target at the entrance of Khowr-e Musa near Dara Island.

He pointed out that yesterday afternoon Iraqi naval units discovered the enemy target near the Iranian Ardashir oilfields while attempting to enter the Khowr-e Musa Canal in the direction of Khomeyni Port. He added that the Iraqi vessels hit the enemy target at 2215 yesterday and sank it at the entrance of Khowr-e Musa before returning safely to base.

9 Sep Attack

JN091928 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1917 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Sep (INA) -- An Iraqi military spokesman announced tonight that an enemy naval target was destroyed and sunk at the entrance of Khowr-e Musa. The spokesman added that one of our brave naval units destroyed the target at 2115 today.

This is the second enemy naval target destroyed within the past 24 hours.

9 Sep Air Attack

JN100704 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0652 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Sep (INA) -- An Iraqi military spokesman has announced that Iraqi planes yesterday evening raided the anchorage area off the Iranian port of Bushehr.

In a statement today, the spokesman said that the Iraqi Air Force succeeded in hitting a huge oil tanker, which was set afire; billows of smoke were seen rising from it after the strike. The spokesman explained that the area attacked by the Iraqi planes is 70 km southeast of Khark Island and 3 km off the Iranian coast. He added that all the Iraqi planes returned safely to base.

This tanker is the third naval target attacked by Iraqi aircraft in less than 48 hours.

ARMED FORCES COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUES

Communique No 835

JN081620 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Sep 82

[Communique No 835 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 8 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The results of our valiant armed forces activities in the various sectors of the battlefield yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One vehicle, one 106-mm gun and one hardware stockpile were destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.
2. One vehicle and three hardware stockpiles were destroyed east of Basra.
3. The rancorous enemy shelled Basra, Zurbatiyah, Quraytu and Al-Mundhir today, causing some damage.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 8 September 1982

Communique No 836

JN091649 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Communique No 836 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 9 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant armed forces continued their military activities in the operational sectors last night and today, with the following results:

1. Our forward units pounded an emeny concentration opposite their positions in the central sector, killing 16, wounding a number of others and destroying 1 gun.
2. An enemy concentration was sighted opposite our units in the northern sector. Our units pounded it, killing 14 and destroying 1 observation post.
3. Four were killed and one vehicle was destroyed east of Basra.
4. The ruling clique in Tehran shelled Basra and Khanaqin today, causing some damage.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 9 September 1982

BADRAN STATEMENT ON ARAB UNITY AT FES SUMMIT

JN092059 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Prime Minister Mudar Badran gave our correspondent the following statement:

[Begin videotape] As is known Jordan, led by His Majesty King Husayn, did not fail at any time to answer a call for Arab solidarity and joint Arab action for the support of the nation. Today, we are at the 12th summit conference and, as in all previous conferences attended by King Husayn, Jordan participated effectively and contributed to the principal Arab issue, Palestine.

Jordan, led by King Husayn, has always worked for the general interest, giving it priority over all regional considerations. This 12th conference is a continuation of the previous conference, the sessions of which remained open because the Arab leaders were not convinced the topics on its agenda had been thoroughly investigated. Thus, it was decided to postpone those sessions for further dialogues and investigation among the Arab leaders, and that took place in this conference.

The conferees worked long hours in closed sessions, some continuing through the night until the following morning. They were working seriously to make the conference succeed, something I can say will achieve agreed-upon, positive results that will benefit our Arab nation everywhere.

There is complete agreement on the Palestinian issue and the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Lebanese issue is still being studied, and work will continue to achieve a solution that can be accepted by all sides.

Furthermore, on the Iraq-Iran war, which generated lengthy discussions during the conference sessions, an agreement was reached. His Majesty King Husayn contributed to this issue and other issues in a positive way which determined the viewpoints of several others.

There was an extensive discussion of Arab solidarity and on clearing the air, particularly between Iraq and Syria, between Syria and Jordan and between the PLO and Lebanon. As for clearing the air among Iraq, Syria and Jordan, there was complete honesty and deep examination by the leaders. This honesty, if I may say so, guided the conference in feeling optimistic about removing misunderstanding and realizing Arab solidarity based on actual, practical, truthful, honest principles. There is no doubt that the participation of the leaders, kings and presidents helped to create an atmosphere of brotherhood, truth and honesty. This enabled His Majesty King Husayn, President Saddam and President Hafiz al-Asad to speak objectively and deeply of a good, promising future. I hope we will find one day that things have returned to normal. The Arab east is directly threatened by Zionist forces -- Israel. That is why a path of solidarity and understanding is the only one that will enable us to confront the aggression.

There is also the issue of the Iraq-Iran war, to which King Husayn effectively contributed by explaining it and its dimensions as a threat to every Arab. Iraq is only trying to repulse the aggression against Iraqi Arab territory and Arab territory in the Arabian Gulf -- the eastern flank of the Arab world.

We hope we will see the day when this crisis will be resolved. It will occur if the entire Arab will is present in resolving this crisis. We must all stand behind Arab principles to regain Arab dignity and confront all external aggression against Arab land. [end videotape]

MOSCOW WEEKLY INTERVIEWS HUSAYN ON REGIONAL ISSUES

For the text of an interview with King Husayn published in the 1 September Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, see the Middle East & North Africa section of the 9 September Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

FORMER JERUSALEM GOVERNOR ON MIDDLE EAST CRISIS

JN090810 Amman THE JERUSALEM STAR in English 9 Sep 82 pp 1, 13

[Jerusalem Governor Al-Khatib interview with Leila G. Deeb]

[Text] Amman -- U.S. President Ronald Reagan's proposals for peace in the Middle East "must not be rejected out of hand," according to Jerusalem Governor Anwar al-Khatib.

In an exclusive interview with THE JERUSALEM STAR, Mr. al-Khatib said it is obvious that there is no possibility of a military solution at this point, so Reagan's proposal should be viewed positively and as a basis for future negotiations. He made this statement despite his view that all Americans are "liars".

Israeli policy is aimed at annexing Jerusalem and promoting the "village leagues" as "representatives" of the Palestinian people in order to implement the autonomy plan, Mr. al-Khatib noted. Therefore, to reject the American initiative at this time would be extremely dangerous, and would threaten the residents of the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

Interviewed during a rare private visit to Amman, Mr. al-Khatib went on to discuss America's position in the Arab-Israeli conflict. America has admitted its interests in the energy sources of the region and in maintaining the status quo with Israel's continued existence, he pointed out.

"The Americans are all liars and we have no confidence in their seriousness, as they always retract their statements later," the governor said. For the U.S., Israel is a domestic issue, not a foreign affair; and it remains to be seen "if Reagan can implement what all other presidents have failed to do. That is the ultimate test."

Mr. al-Khatib said Israeli Prime Minister Begin is "the only person in the world who claims that Jerusalem is Israel's eternal capital." But the U.S. will not act constructively on Reagan assertion that Jerusalem's status remains negotiable unless the concerted will and effort of the Arabs puts pressure on America "where it hurts."

The formation of a united Palestinian-Jordanian front supported by the Arabs would be the most practical approach, Mr. al-Khatib said. This is an inevitable step because over 60 percent of East Bank residents are Palestinians, and all West Bankers hold Jordanian citizenship. The Israelis regard them as aliens living in Israel's "promised land."

According to Mr al-Khatib, the balance of power in the Middle East has changed. The Soviet Union has ceded its share of influence to the United States, which now has 100 per cent influence in the area. The Soviet Union has washed its hands of the matter and has withdrawn: witness Soviet inaction over the Lebanon crisis.

Mr. al-Khatib, one of whose hobbies is collecting all the statements made by U.S. Presidents on Palestine, quoted one of former President Carter's to exert pressure on Begin, that he had no desire to exert pressure on Begin, that he didn't intend to and even if he wanted to, he couldn't.

Mr. al-Khatib said that though he is here on a private visit, he has a lot to discuss with the government. Jordanian law is still applicable in the West Bank, he pointed out, and West Bankers have many difficult problems which he has taken upon himself to try to solve.

The most important of these is the question of the Haram al-Sharif.

Rebuilding temple

The Zionists, he said, believe that there is no meaning to Israel without Jerusalem; hence the decision of 28 June 1967 to annex the city. This was backed up on 30 July 1980 by the announcement of a Knesset law to implement this decision. The goal of all this, he said, is to rebuild the Temple of Solomon.

According to Zionist theory the Muslims own only the structures of the dome of the rock and Al-Aqsa Mosque, which cover only 40 of the 140 dunums of the compound. The rest are open areas, which the Israelis are trying to utilize. Naturally, Mr. al-Khatib said, the Muslim stand is that the whole compound is owned by the Muslims.

According to the Israelis, the Muslims have no rights and own none of the gates. The Israelis even hold the keys to the Magharbeh Gate, and occupy all the buildings around the compound. To combat this, the Muslims have started to build up the area, laying tiles and putting up what structures they can.

Mr al-Khatib emphasizes that this matter of the Haram al-Sharif should attract the attention of all those whose faith in sincere, because it is not only a holy place to Muslims, but a colossal Arab historical landmark. He says the protection of the Haram has become the daily concern of all; religious Jews are daily trying to enter the area to pray and claim it as their own. But the people of Jerusalem have become aware of this, and the moment anything occurs, the whole population rallies to its defence.

On the occupation policy in general, Mr. al-Khatib said that regarding the expropriation of land, the Israelis consider the military governor's decisions in such cases final, since the lands area "state domain". The owners are required to produce proof of their ownership of lands that they have lived on and utilized for thousands of years. Most of the ownership proofs are not documented. And when the property owners go to court, they inevitably lose their cases.

A United Nations commission looking into this matter was not granted entry into the occupied territory. But it had been in the East Bank, heard testimonies and received documents. It declared all Israeli actions on this matter illegal, contravening the Geneva Conventions and international laws.

HUSAYN LEAVES FES FOR SPAIN 10 SEPTEMBER

JN101229 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] Fes -- His Majesty King Husayn left Fes this morning on a private visit to Spain that will last several days.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO YUGOSLAVIA -- Yugoslav President Petar Stambolic has received the credentials of Walid as-Sa'd, the Jordanian ambassador to Yugoslavia. [Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 5 Sep 82 JN]

AL-BIQA' SITUATION SAID TO WARRANT DRAPER RETURN

NC100837 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] President Ilyas Sarkis has charged Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus with holding contacts to speed up the return of Morris Draper, who has been promoted to the post of ambassador. President Reagan has charged Draper with resuming the mission in Lebanon, until the return of Ambassador Philip Habib, to tackle the situation, which is worrying senior officials following the Israeli-Syrian military developments in the Al-Biqa'.

Sources close to the foreign minister have stated that Lebanon has requested the French Government to extend the stay of its forces by 1 week, when the question of west Beirut and the southern suburb should be finally settled and the Israelis withdrawn from the remaining points in the airport and the southern suburb.

OFFICIALS DISCUSS MULTINATIONAL FORCE WITHDRAWAL

NC091239 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] The situation in Lebanon and the area in light of the Fes summit and in particular the new developments in the Al-Biqa' and the north as well as the question of the multinational force's withdrawal were discussed at a meeting held by President Ilyas Sarkis, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus at the Republican Palace at noon today.

Minister Butrus had earlier met with U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Robert Dillon, who confirmed that the U.S. Marines will leave Beirut tomorrow. After the 1-hour meeting, the U.S. ambassador said: I am also leaving Beirut for several days. This was the last opportunity for me to meet with the foreign minister before my departure. We made a general review of the situation. On the date of Morris Draper's return to Beirut, Ambassador Dillon said: He will come soon, in the next few days.

First Marine Contingent Leaves

NC091602 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] We now mention the withdrawal of the multinational force following the completion of its task of overseeing the Palestinian fighters' departure. This morning, the first contingent of the U.S. force stationed in Beirut harbor withdrew. Its positions were taken over by a joint Italian-Lebanese force. Two Italian personnel carriers have taken up positions at the junction of the fifth basin and at the eastern entrance of the harbor. The U.S. force is scheduled to complete its withdrawal at dawn tomorrow, in accordance with the arrangements made by U.S. officials.

Information not as yet officially confirmed states that Israeli units withdrew from the old customs building in the harbor, Quay No 10 and the electricity company building at 1000 today. Concerning the operations of the internal security forces following their deployment in the capital to maintain security and stability, and in accordance with an announcement made by the Public Relations Bureau at the Security Forces Directorate, security patrols have arrested a number of wanted persons.

VOL SAYS KHALAF, SYRIANS TO FORM GROUP IN NORTH

NC091604 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Salah Khalaf -- Abu Iyad -- has rented a four-story building in the Al-Biddawi area of Tripoli. The building will contain the offices of a new movement Abu Iyad is intending, according to some sources, to form with the Syrian authorities' endorsement.

MINISTERS LEAVE FOR DAMASCUS, AMMAN TALKS

NC101018 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] Tourism Minister Marwan Hamadah, Economy and Trade Minister Khalid Junblatt and deputy leader of the Socialist Progressive Party Muhsin Dallul today left Beirut for Damascus and Amman to hold contacts with Syrian and Jordanian officials.

AIDE TO BASHIR AL-JUMAYYIL OUTLINES PROGRAM

PM081511 Brussels LE SOIR in French 1 Sep 82 pp 1, 3

[Article by Camille Tawil, director of the Lebanese Resistance Bureau in Bonn and "close aide" to Lebanese President-elect Bashir al-Jumayyil: "Re-Lebanizing Lebanon"]

[Text] Bashir al-Jumayyil's election as president is certainly the sign of a renewal. This election is above all a victory for democracy in Lebanon. It is Lebanon's victory over its adversaries. It is also the victory of national unity within a democratic pluralist regime. Indeed, despite the attempted boycott by some deputies, Bashir al-Jumayyil was elected with a large majority: 92 percent of the votes cast; 46 percent of surviving Muslim deputies and 84 percent of surviving Christian deputies in fact took part in the vote. It should be noted that Bashir al-Jumayyil is one of the very few people's resistance leaders who has come to power by democratic means.

The preisdent-elect's task is far from easy. He is president of a country which must first be re-Lebanized. The essential condition for doing that is the withdrawal of all the foreign troops in the country.

As far as the Palestinians are concerned, Bashir al-Jumayyil is the first Lebanese president who has dared to say: "We have always opposed the PLO and the existence of Palestinian military structures in Lebanon." He said that repeatedly during the 8 years of war, he said it after he became a candidate and he has continued to say it since his election. That is essential in this Arab world where hypocrisy is the fashion. The PLO must therefore withdraw not only from Beirut but from the whole of Lebanon. There must no longer be a single armed Palestinian on any part of Lebanese territory.

As for the hundreds of thousands of unarmed Palestinian civilians, there has never been any question of "throwing them into the sea." Indeed, they will be subject to Lebanese laws and will have to fulfill their duties like all foreigners in all countries. The new government will study their status and Lebanese-Palestinian relations will have to primarily take into account Lebanon's integrity, sovereignty and independence and the Lebanese people's freedom to reject the presence in their country of a more powerful army than their own, a country within the country, a state within the state.

Regarding Syria, there is no longer any question -- and moreover there never has been any question for the president-elect -- of it persisting in its annexationist designs. Not one inch of Lebanese territory can be taken. "Syria must finally realize," Bashir al-Jumayyil said, "that our country is an independent country." There must no longer be a single armed Syrian on any part of Lebanese territory. Lebanon and Syria do have common interests, of course, and our relations with the Syrians will be cordial once Lebanon is treated as an equal by the Syrians. Moreover, Syria regards Al-Biqa' as a security zone for the Syrian state and Israel in turn regards southern Lebanon as a security zone for the Israeli state. However, Lebanon cannot be partitioned and anybody who has not heard Bashir al-Jumayyil talk frequently of the 10,452 square km did not want to listen. Bashir al-Jumayyil is the president of the whole of Lebanon, of the 10,452 square km in which the Lebanese Army will have the job of guaranteeing the security of all Lebanese.

There must no longer be any foreign army on Lebanese territory. All the regions of the country will then be "re-Lebanized," they will be zones of stability and safety for all, under Lebanese authority alone. An occupied, destabilized Lebanon is a danger not only for the countries in the region but also for international peace. Only an independent, strong, sovereign and prosperous Lebanon will guarantee security for all. We no longer want to have to suffer other people's wars in our country and be blamed for crimes we have not committed. Israel must no longer threaten Syria in Lebanon. Syria must no longer threaten Israel in Lebanon. The Arab countries must no longer threaten each other in Lebanon. The USSR must no longer threaten Western interests in general and U.S. interests in particular in Lebanon, and so forth. "Lebanon for the Lebanese" is more than a slogan.

It is when Lebanon is restored to the Lebanese alone that it will be useful to all. Bashir al-Jumayyil will restore true meaning to the notion of independence -- an independence which was -- easily -- acquired in 1943 but -- unfortunately -- was consecrated by 8 years of destruction, an ocean of blood and 100,000 deaths. The re-Lebanization of Beirut, the south, the east and the north will be the principle of Lebanon's national, psychological and territorial union and the ineluctable principle of national sovereignty.

As regards national unity, Lebanon is and will remain precisely the same mosaic of communities, ethnic groups, cultures and civilizations. That is what made and will make its specific nature and its greatness. "I hold out my hand to every sincere Lebanese," the president-elect said, "and I pledge not to act as a man who belongs to a given faction or a specific party." Bashir al-Jumayyil will try to make the accord between Lebanese Christians and Muslims as harmonious as possible. Violence must never again be a means of settling conflicts -- and they exist, nobody denies it -- among Lebanese. Bashir al-Jumayyil wants to be a president who brings accord among Lebanese of various religions.

He is not a "candidate of challenge," as some people have tried to suggest. Bashir al-Jumayyil will guarantee security and justice for all the country's religious communities. Lebanon will finally and undoubtedly be one indivisible republic different from the divided republic of the past. Through that accord between Lebanese Muslims and Christians, in which the rights of religious communities will never be asserted at the expense of Lebanese rights, Bashir al-Jumayyil will work for accord between Islam and Christianity. And the whole world could benefit from that example, whose cultural importance lies in its rarity.

The future Lebanon, Christian and Muslim but also Oriental and open to the West, will be the place in which Western and Eastern cultures -- which have influenced it for centries -- will be able to meet. It will be the intermediary between the East and the West and will serve as intermediary between the various Middle East countries. Indeed Bashir al-Jumayyil will work to establish in a despotic fanatical and divided East a democracy inspired by Western democracies and corresponding to Lebanese society. "Democracy implies the existence of parties and groups which must assume their responsibilities," the new president said. "I am not opposed to sincere opposition. I will also be sincere with the opposition and I am prepared to help it become an opposition with the full meaning which that word has in a democratic country." That means complete rejection of ideological totalitarianism and the one-party system which Bashir al-Jumayyil's oponents accuse him of intending to establish.

In that democratic Lebanon every effort will be made to attain real social justice: Education, social security, sanitation and so forth will be guaranteed for all Lebanese. In addition Bashir al-Jumayyil will pay special attention to agriculture so that the country can derive the maximum benefit from its agricultural resources. As regards the economy, a rapid recovery must be effected because only a Lebanon with a flourishing economy can ensure its inhabitants' happiness. The future Lebanon's economic system will be open and liberal.

To achieve that future unified, free and peaceful Lebanon it is necessary -- once again -- for all foreign troops to withdraw from the country and for national sovereignty to be established throughout Lebanese territory.

It is now time to draw a line between the past and the future. It is time to put an end to discord, friction and sensitivity so that all Lebanese can unite behind the president of the republic to build a new state on sounder and more lasting bases. The new republic, the republic of renewal, must be given time to build the Lebanon of the future -- a Lebanon which can live up to its sons and its history.

KARAMI, FRANJIYAH CITED ON AL-JUMAYYIL, SYRIA

PM090955 Paris LE MATIN in French 4-5 Sep 82 p 8

[Jacques de Vernisy northern Lebanon dispatch: "Northern Lebanon: Prominent People Against Al-Jumayyil"]

[Excerpt] "It is almost 1 year since we last went to Beirut," he [Lebanese Sunni leader Rashid Karami] told us. "The roads are not safe, we refuse to pass Israelis and before June there were the Phalangists, their agents." It goes without saying that his hostility to Al-Jumayyil has not lessened. "He used violence to force some deputies to come and vote for him," he assured us, strongly criticizing the Phalangists for their cooperation with the Israelis.

"There is no doubt," Karami continued, "that Israel is staying in Lebanon to force Al-Jumayyil to sign a peace treaty." In that case, he said, beware of the Arab world's boycott and the political and economic consequences that would have in Lebanon. This is a ridiculous idea, he said.

What about the Syrian occupation? It is not an occupation but a legal force under the name of the Arab Deterrent Forces "on which the Lebanese Government has taken no final decisions," according to Karami, whose relations with Damascus -- which he had just visited twice in 10 days -- have been excellent for more than 4 years.

The tone was the same in Zgharta -- which is linked to Tripoli by a major road -- it helps having been president -- in the Maronite Franjiyah clan which broke off relations with Al-Jumayyil's Lebanese Front when the latter first established contact with Israel. Sulaymann Franjiyah, the ex-president who was spending the summer at his house in Ihdin, is is much more closely linked with Damascus than Karami since he took refuge there in 1957 after a massacre in which 23 people were killed in the little church of Mizriyya. A few months ago, during a visit to Latakia he said his visit had been "the happiest time of my life," which had shocked many Lebanese. "I have known all the present Syrian leaders since they were children," Franjiyah stated. "It is important to remember that it was we Christians who asked the Syrians to come to Lebanon. We have a moral debt of gratitude toward them; they have spent huge sums of money here. A legal decision must be taken on the Arab Deterrent Forces' future, but not under the heel of the Israeli oppressor." That is a viewpoint shared by many Lebanese, although they are virtually all anti-Syrian. For them it is an Arab problem and just because Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon asks Damascus' troops to leave Al-Biqa' and the north that does not mean they should automatically do so.

LCP'S HAWI DISCUSSES FUTURE UNDER AL-JUMAYYIL

PM071127 Paris L'HUMANITE in French 2 Sep 82 p 9

[Interview with Lebanese Communist Party Secretary General Georges Hawi by Alain Wasmes in Beirut on 1 September]

[Text] Beirut, 1 September -- "You have seen how Beirut has greeted the Palestinians' departure. Do you think that is how an occupied population would greet the departure of its so-called occupiers?" Lebanese Communist Party (LCP) Secretary General Georges Hawi granted us this interview the day after Yasir 'Arafat's departure from Beirut. Following the Israeli aggression a radical new situation has been created in Lebanon not only by the PLO's departure from Beirut but also by the election of extreme rightwing leader Bashir al-Jumayyil to the Presidency.... It is that situation which Georges Hawi discussed:

"The Palestinians' departure should be regarded from three complementary angles," the Lebanese leader stressed. From the Palestinian angle: "First, despite the very severe blow which the U.S.-backed Israeli aggression was able to deal the Resistance, it was unable to attain its essential goals: To liquidate the Palestinian presence and impose a political capitulation on the PLO. It is thanks to the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples' heroic struggle and the full support which the Lebanese progressive forces and the people's masses gave the Palestinian Resistance that a political solution was rendered possible. That political solution enabled Yasir 'Arafat to leave Beirut like a head of state respected even by the Lebanese authorities, as the Palestinian people's historic leader.

That cannot be regarded as an Israeli military victory and especially not as a political victory. The PLO will continue its struggle with better support from international public opinion."

From the Arab angle: "It is no accident," Georges Hawi continued, "that 'Arafat chose to leave for a non-Arab country. 'Arafat's departure for Greece is a strong condemnation for all Arab regimes without exception." Indeed Georges Hawi thinks that, in varying degrees according to the regime, the Arab countries have been "accomplices" in the Israeli aggression and that "some have even helped finance the cost of the aggression." "With the exception of the Syrian troops present in Lebanon, all the Arab regimes were content to watch," he said, expressing surprise that in "90 days it was not even possible to hold a meeting at foreign ministers level to at least make a joint condemnation of the aggression. All attempts to convene an Arab summit during those 3 months failed. Why is that summit possible now that the PLO has left Beirut? Does it not mean that the Arab regimes wanted the aggression against the Palestinian Resistance to have those results?"

The LCP secretary general then analyzed the Lebanese view of this event: "The whole of patriotic Lebanon, all the political forces attached to the country's unity, its Arab character and democracy were present to see 'Arafat off and assure him that they would continue to support the Palestinian people's struggle. The crowd which gathered round the Palestinian people's great historic leader was marked with sincere sadness and real anger. What more striking denial is there of the accusations made by Israel and its Lebanese lackeys claiming that the Palestinian presence in Lebanon was an occupation? On Monday every Lebanese patriot felt that a part of himself was leaving Lebanon, and the Lebanese cause was never more united with the Palestinian cause than on the day 'Arafat left."

The LCP secretary general turned to the significance of Bashir al-Jumayyil's election: "Very few people in Lebanon or in the world could deny that Bashir al-Jumayyil could not have become president of the republic without the Israeli aggression," he stated. He opened two magazines lying on his desk: One contained the report to the Fourth LCP Congress in July 1979, which expressed the view that Lebanon had then become the "second link in the Camp David agreements" and reported statements by Bashir al-Jumayyil to his entourage in which the leader of the phalangist militia said he thought he then had the Israeli "go-ahead." The other, a report to a Central Committee session early last April, predicted a general Israeli aggression which might go as far as Beirut to liquidate the Palestinian Resistance and the Lebanese National Movement and impose Bashir al-Jumayyil as president....

"That was back on 2 April.... I cited those documents to stress that we are not surprised either by the Israeli aggression or by the goals of that aggression in the strictly Lebanese sphere. That is why we are certain that the Israeli plan is not aimed at establishing unity in the country even under a rightwing regime. It is not a strong central government that Israel wants; quite the reverse. The Israelis' whole behavior and the very principles of Zionist policy in Lebanon aim to dismantle and partition the country. Furthermore, we are well aware that, despite the ties which united the new president to Israel, Israeli policy will not really facilitate his task or help him govern a united country. Israel will not stop creating difficulties and conflicts and exploiting existing ones to further weaken the elements favoring a united Lebanese society and Lebanese independence and will try to make the new president increasingly dependent on the direct Israeli armed presence in Lebanon...."

With regard to the new regime, Georges Hawi said "the problem is not whether or not to recognize it. We have a new president of the republic called Bashir al-Jumayyil. That is a fact. What stance should we adopt? It must be noted that the broadest circles are opposed to him, that there is a general Islamic rejection, that there is a strong progressive opposition and great discontent in Christian circles which are, moreover, likely to be the first victims of an Al-Jumayyil dictatorship. That is due to the Israeli occupation and Phalangist collaboration in the occupied regions."

Georges Hawi then stated the bases on which the various components of that opposition could be assembled:

"First, rejecting of the Israeli aggression and occupation and the demand for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli troops in keeping with UN Resolutions 508 and 509. Unconditionally means without a peace treaty between Lebanon and Israel. That rejection of a peace treaty is an essential point on which all Lebanese patriots are agreed.

"Second, the defense of the country's unity against any partition or dismemberment. Moreover that attachment to the country's unity is the reason for the opposition circles' refusal to push that opposition as far as partition, despite the fact that the new regime will never be able to control regions like west Beirut, the north, Al-Biqa', most of Mount Lebanon and the south, even though some of those regions are under Israeli occupation....

Among the principles uniting the opposition to Bashir al-Jumayyil Georges Hawi also mentioned: the defense of democratic freedoms, rejection of the Phalangist Party's hegemony, attachment to the 1943 national pact establishing a balance between the various components of Lebanese society and the need to solve the extremely acute social probelms aggravated by the war.

"We have no illusions," he continued. "All the social strata represented by those factions will probably not wage the struggle with the same energy and constancy. We are well aware that some day there will be a degree of compromise between Bashir al-Jumayyil and some representatives of political Islam. However, that compromise will not be accepted by the masses unless it is based on the principles I have just mentioned.

"For our part we will continue strong opposition to the new regime in conjunction with the Lebanese National Movement [LNM]. We prefer that opposition to follow a democratic path. Yet that does not depend on us alone. It also depends on the regime's attitude to democracy and the opposition. Is it capable of accepting them? If it resorts to official or clandestine violence against the opposition, we will be forced to use arms to defend ourselves and to call on people to defend themselves by any means. Nobody can stifle that legitimate right. Besides, nobody can prevent a people from using arms to struggle against a foreign occupation. As long as the Israeli occupation continues, we will continue the armed struggle against the occupier and his agents...."

[Question] Do you reject all possibility of agreement with Bashir al-Jumayyil?

[Answer] No, despite the fact that we do not see any such possibilities at present. However, the Lebanese bourgeoisie, including the sector which supported Bashir al-Jumayyil, is beginning to see that it is not just an exercise or a move to clear out the Palestinians and Syrians. That bourgeoisie is going to see its interests increasingly undermined by the occupation. If it can influence the new president and urge him to take action aimed at struggling against the Israeli occupation and acceptance of the principles put forward by the opposition, there will be a real possibility of achieving the broadest possible national unity for the defense of the homeland's independence and unity. Bashir al-Jumayyil, who has been swept into the presidency of the republic by the tide of the Israeli agression, will go when it ebbs.

It is up to him to decide to change direction, to take action to hound out the occupier so that he can stand alongside those who have defended the homeland.

The LCP secretary general then turned to the LNM's future: "With the occupation and the presidential election the situation in Lebanon regarding the nature of the regime and of the opposition has changed radically. Neither the government nor the opposition will be as they were before. We believe that the LNM should be expanded in order to group all those who want to struggle against the Israeli occupation for the country's independence and unity and for democracy. The LNM's structure should be more flexible in future. The same rigid rules must not be imposed on all its component parts because everybody cannot take the new conditions of struggle, which will be harsh and difficult, in the same way.

"We are going to continue to support the LNM, but it is now necessary to form a core within it grouping all those who want and are able to wage the fiercest struggle against the Israeli occupier and his lackeys in the various aspects of that struggle. It is on that revolutionary core that the goals of the country's liberation, the defense of its unity and the restoration of its democracy will converge. Those three goals are various aspects of one struggle.

"The revolutionary core will also face the prospects of struggle at the Arab level. Contrary to appearances, the new phase of the Lebanese struggle will be closely linked to the Middle East crisis. Furthermore, Lebanon's future will be closely linked to the Arab liberation movement's future. From the angle of Lebanese patriotism, the future of the Arab countries surrounding us concerns us. And from the viewpoint of Lebanese patriotism we will not merely await changes and developments in a particular Arab country. We must now work for that change to ensure that it comes about as quickly as possible and is as radical as possible."

HADDAD'S MILITIAS STOP GOVERNMENT FORCES

NC081520 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 8 Sep 82

[Text] [Free Lebanon Commander] Sa'd Haddad's militias today prevented army, [internal] security and public security forces from crossing to the south through the Nahr al-Awwali roadblock near Sidon.

Contacts were made and the militias allowed the military personnel to cross 1 hour later.

AL-ASAD RETURNS TO DAMASCUS FROM FES 10 SEP

JN100730 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0715 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad returned to Damascus from Fes at 0830 today after having participated in the 12th Arab summit conference.

The Syrian Arab delegation that accompanied President al-Asad also returned with him. The delegation comprises 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad; Nayif Jarbu', minister of public works and reconstruction [title as heard]; and Nasir Qaddur, assistant minister of foreign affairs.

ISRAELI AIRCRAFT HIT 'AIR DEFENSE' VEHICLE 8 SEP

JN081826 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 8 Sep 82

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: At 1640 today, 8 September 1982, four enemy aircraft bombed our air defenses in the Dahr Al-Baydar [in Lebanon] from a high altitude. One of our air defense vehicles was hit as a result of the bombing.

Attack on Air Defenses 9 Sep

JN091227 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] A military spokesman has made the following statement: Between 1125 and 1245 today, 9 September 1982, enemy aircraft resumed their bombardment of our air defenses in the Dahr Al-Baydar area from high altitudes. Three of our air defense vehicles were hit in this bombardment.

U.S. 'Concern' Noted

JN082149 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 8 Sep 82

[Text] Washington -- The U.S. administration has expressed its concern over the Israeli air raid on Syrian forces in the Al-Biqa' region of Lebanon. White House spokesman Larry Speakes told journalists: We are very concerned about the reports concerning the renewal of military hostilities in Al-Biqa' in Lebanon.

President Ronald Reagan will receive Philip Habib, his special envoy to the Middle East, tonight. The White House announced today that President Reagan insists on proceeding with the Middle East issue. He decided to go ahead with the second phase of the U.S. settlement plan based on the Camp David accords. Larry Speakes said it is most likely that Philip Habib will be assigned a new mission in Lebanon.

BEGIN SAYS U.S. INTERFERING IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS

TA100723 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0635 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Report by Yinon Shenqar — recorded]

[Text] Israel gives the United States strategic assistance and contributes to its national security more than the United States aids Israel and contributes to its national security. This was stated by Prime Minister Begin in an interview that will be published in an upcoming issue of the IDF weekly [to be published on 13 or 14 September].

In the interview, the first given by the prime minister to an Israeli paper since the end of Operation Peace for Galilee, Begin disclosed that Israel knows what is inside the T-72 tank. The Americans do not know what is inside this tank and have never shot down a MiG-25, the prime minister said. We developed the means to destroy surface-to-air missile batteries without losing a single aircraft. The Americans do not have such means, nor does NATO. I am sure that one day we will share these three secrets with the Americans, he added, and this will be a great contribution to the United States.

Nevertheless, the prime minister said, over the last 2 weeks there has been gross U.S. intervention in Israel's domestic affairs, both by officials who leak information and by journalists and papers. Begin mentioned in this connection the remarks published in THE NEW YORK TIMES, according to which the only way to guarantee the success of the Reagan plan is to topple the Begin government. Our friends the Americans should remember that Israel is not Chile and I am not Allende, the prime minister said in the interview.

Asked by the interviewers about the permanent settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip, Begin said: If, in due course, we extend Israel's sovereignty to Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip, then too we shall support full autonomy for the Arab inhabitants there.

Referring to early elections in Israel, Begin said he found it inappropriate to hold elections this year, following Operation Peace for Galilee. War is launched for the people, not for the success of the party, he said. We succeeded in Operation Peace for Galilee, but this should not be used in order to make capital in the elections. In the meantime, though, he added, we were faced with the new U.S. positions which are serious and which in fact bury the Camp David accords. The Alignment's spokesmen said the majority of the people support these positions, the prime minister noted, and therefore this matter should be put to the test of elections.

BEGIN REPORTED DETERMINED TO HOLD EARLY ELECTIONS

TA100827 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 10 Sep 82 pp 1, 3

[Report by Arye Tzimuqi and Gad Li'or]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Begin is determined to advance the elections to June 1983. The prime minister will not be opposed to advancing the local elections scheduled for October 1983 to this coming June as well.

The prime minister believes that holding early elections is politically important since they will revolve around the issue of the future of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. However, not everyone in the Likud shares Begin's view on the need for early elections. There are cautious and hesitant reactions in the Herut Movement to the early elections proposal. In contrast, the reaction among the Likud's liberals is more positive since the assumption is that if elections are held in the coming year, the agreement between the Likud's factions will remain valid, as the liberals demand, contrary to the position of circles in Herut.

In any event, it is clear that the prime minister's opinion on this issue will be decisive and if he wants to run for reelection in June 1983, the entire Likud will accept his opinion.

Porat Says Begin Serious

TA090924 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Uri Porat, the prime minister's adviser on communications and foreign press, has said that Menahem Begin meant what he said when he proposed holding early Knesset elections. The words were not said just for the sake of argument. In a talk with our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer, Porat said that the prime minister thinks that advancing the elections is an acceptable democratic move when there are national issues on the agenda and the public's position on them must be examined.

As for the reports about resolutions approved at the Fes conference, the prime minister's spokesman said that that conference was no different from the Khartoum conference and there was no need to react to the resolutions approved there, since, like a leitmotif, the nonrecognition of the State of Israel accompanies it and the conferences that preceded it.

REPORTAGE ON REACTION TO EARLY ELECTIONS PROPOSAL

Likud To Hold Discussions

TA090639 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Excerpt] The Likud leaders intend to begin immediately after the holidays next month practical talks with their coalition partners about holding early Knesset elections. Our correspondent on party affairs Amnon Nadav has learned that the idea of advancing the elections, which was put forward yesterday in the Knesset by the prime minister during a debate, was formulated even earlier in talks that the prime minister held with some of the Likud leaders.

Coalition Partners' Views

TA090747 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] This morning's question is: Will the elections really be held early and, if so, at whose initiative? NRP faction chairman, Deputy Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir, thinks that there is no need to hold early elections and put the country into a political fever, but President Reagan's plan should be coped with now. Other coalition partners, too, members of Tehiya and TAMI, are not enthusiastic about the idea of early elections. The reactions in the Knesset, after the prime minister's announcement that he hopes the elections will be held in May or June next year, are summed up by our Knesset correspondent Arye Golan:

[Golan] We are ready at any time for elections, Dr Yehuda Ben-Me'ir told us last night, but this is not the time.

[Begin recording] [Ben-Me'ir] I think that there is no need to hold early elections; the need we are now faced with is to cope, the government must cope, with serious challenges confronting us, and I think that this is also the prime minister's view.

[Question] The prime minister mentioned from the Knesset podium the dates of May or June 1983. Does the NRP take this date seriously or propose postponing the elections to October 1983?

[Answer] The prime minister did not propose early elections. I sat in the Knesset. The Alignment told him that they had a so-called majority in the nation. So he said that if anybody comes along with such claim and so on, the elections can always be held early and the claim can be put to the test, so there is no need to hold elections again. How will we cope with this plan and President Reagan's positions on the issue of Lebanon and all these issues if we put the country again into an election fever this year? We do not need elections every year. [end recording]

Deputy Prime Minister David Levi also regards the prime minister's remarks as throwing down the gauntlet to the Alignment. He was quoted last night as having said that he does not sense elections in the offing.

[Begin recording] [Levi] It has, after all, been proved in the Knesset: The government has a stable majority. The prime minister told the Alignment: If you are so enthusiastic and you believe in your strength, come, please, let us agree on early elections if you really, truly want. I think that here the prime minister issued a challenge to the Alignment. We will see.

[Question] The Alignment is apparently ready for early elections, according to the initial reactions we have heard, but in contrast to this, the NRP is opposed. So will there or won't there be elections next year?

[Answer] Well, if the Alignment is ready, this is not a matter of "apparently." Let them be good enough, please, to decide and inform the prime minister. If there is such an announcement, we will hold a discussion. [end recording]

And, in the Alignment, there is not yet an official decision. The faction's chairman, Moshe Shahal, reacted: We are not afraid. MK Hayim Bar-Lev said last night that the Alignment was prepared.

[Begin Bar-Lev recording] According to the reaction of the faction members, and in my opinion, if the prime minister's proposal is serious, we should certainly accept it. [end recording]

And if we return to the coalition partners, Agudat Yisra'el says: We will not interfere in holding new elections. TAMI, in contrast, is opposed, although Deputy Minister Ben-Tziyon Rubin said last night: We have nothing to fear. Ge'ula Kohen, Tehiya faction, supports holding early elections, although this is not convenient for her party.

[Begin recording] [Kohen] I think that holding early elections is a good thing, nationally.

[Question] Electorally?

[Answer] For Tehiya, electorally, I am not sure that it is. I am not sure that the answer to that problem will damage Tehiya, but I have not yet weighed this in our institutions, or how Tehiya will go to those elections. [end recording]

This is how people in the Knesset reacted last night. About a month ago the prime minister informed the coalition executive that he would not initiate new elections without consulting the partners. In view of the initial reactions being heard, people in the Knesset are saying that it is worth considering the possibility of early elections to the 11th Knesset with caution.

Labor Party Reacts

TA090928 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0754 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] The Alignment does not regard the prime minister's proposal in the Knesset yesterday to hold early elections as a serious one. This is the official Labor Party reaction. The Labor Party spokesman issued a communique this morning which states: One does not shoot from the hip regarding a proposal to hold early elections and it cannot be done in a market atmosphere, that is, during raucous debates in the Knesset. If the Likud proposes holding the general elections in May, the Alignment will not turn the proposal down. Our correspondent Pe'erli Shahar points out that the Alignment itself will not initiate a proposal for early elections.

Peres To Accept 'Challenge'

TA100734 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 10 Sep 82 p 1

[Report by A. Kinarti]

[Excerpts] On Sunday, 12 September, in his speech opening the political debate in the party center, Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres is to announce his support for early elections "if the prime minister's proposal really is serious and is not just for the purpose of creating a stir." Peres will recommend this to the party, saying: "We accept your challenge."

Last night, high Labor Party sources told DAVAR that even competition for the Alignment candidate for the office of prime minister, if there is such again -- that is, between Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Rabin and perhaps another candidate — will not serve as an excuse for the party to oppose early elections. "It appears that the party will not be able to escape an internal competition, and this is legitimate," DAVAR was told.

The DAVAR correspondent was also told by confidants of Shim'on Peres that, "The Labor Party-Alignment candidate will be reelected with the early elections, which will create a new situation."

Press Comments

TA091354 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 9 Sep 82 p 5

[Commentary by Moshe Zaq: "Timeout"]

[Text] Yesterday the prime minister suggested to the U.S. administration a "timeout" of 9 months in the argument over the Reagan plan for Judaea and Samaria. The initial reaction in Washington was not enthusiastic. The U.S. administration wanted an immediate decision and is apparently not prepared to wait until the people in Israel democratically, via elections, decide which of the two roads to tread, that of the government or of the opposition.

The proposal to hold early elections was in fact the only climax in the course of the tiring debate which lacked dramatic struggle between the government and the opposition, with the coalition majority guaranteed in advance.

The prime minister can settle for the majority given yesterday to the "no" he gave to President Reagan on the latter's plan. Nevertheless, he suggested to the opposition that elections be held within 9 months, so that the people may decide on the disputed point. This is theoretically a proposal to the opposition but, in fact, the proposal was aimed at Washington: Why the struggle? Why do you need a confrontation? Let us declare a 9-month timeout.

This was a better way out of problems than the declaration that the plan was stillborn, a declaration which may harm the Reagan administration. That was also a more realistic proposal than the statement that the European countries remained friends with the United States despite the dispute over the trans-Siberian gas pipeline, since it is precisely the need of the Reagan administration to back away from the sanctions against the British and French companies which supplied equipment to the Soviets, which pushes the administration into seeking "success -- immediately."

It is better, then, to calm tempers by postponing the decision until after elections in Israel.

Since it assumed power, the Reagan administration has had four confrontations on foreign affairs. In three of them we were not involved, while we were in one, the AWACS deal with Saudi Arabia.

A. On the plan for turning El Salvador into a test confrontation with the communist bloc, the administration withdrew.

B. On the affair of strategic arms deployment in Europe, again the administration withdrew.

C. On the matter of European aid to the Soviets in building the trans-Siberian pipeline, indications for U.S. withdrawal are apparent.

D. Only on the AWACS affair did the administration succeed.

It is clear that the administration should preserve its prestige, and it is choosing what seems vulnerable to it (following the damage caused to Israel's image in the Lebanon war) in order to flex and demonstrate its muscles.

Therefore, the timeout suggested yesterday by the prime minister is necessary.

Further Press Comment

TA100807 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0435 GMT 10 Sep 82

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpts] THE JERUSALEM POST says that in the present circumstances, there are very poor chances that a wise argument could be held over the issue currently on the agenda. Instead of pretending it is eager for elections, the Alignment should, for its sake and for the sake of the country's future, refuse to cooperate with any Likud election plan. It will be joined in its refusal by the NRP, which also has good reason to fear early elections. Agudat Yisra'el, which is very content now, will also prefer to avoid the risk of losing its bargaining chips due to a Likud election victory.

'AL HAMISHMAR writes that the people will have to decide, when called upon to do so, between the nationalist conception of Eretz Yisra'el and the realistic conception of peaceful coexistence with the Palestinian people without our controlling them. The Alignment certainly need not fear early elections when it is guided by its clear ideological platform.

HAMODI'A says there are no grounds, nor a reasonable visible need, to hold early elections that cannot guarantee any substantive change. And the most optimistic Alignment members do not believe they will succeed in regaining power now. At most, the Likud will gain additonal power, but this will not really give it more than it now has. Therefore, if the idea is unnecessary it should be shelved and struck from the agenda

AL-ANBA' believes the prime minister had no choice but to call for early elections. It seems that although the government enjoys a stable majority in the Knesset, in the heat of the not-so-diplomatic argument with the United States, Begin wants to prove to the Americans that the people of Israel stand behind him.

DAVAR says that in the interview with BAMAHAME, the prime minister provoked the U.S. administration and waved in front of its eyes Israel's military secrets. Each time Begin gives free reign to his tongue on these issues, Israel is damaged. It is permissible to try to gain from the United States something in return for the military lessons of the Lebanon war but not by way of a petty retailer. Begin continues to talk of U.S. intervention in Israel's domestic affairs as if he had not enjoyed this intervention in the action and inaction in the Knesset elections last year. He is probably convinced that his remarks reflect proud and upright conduct, but in fact he dishonors Israel and the office of the prime minister.

SHAMIR ON U.S. ROLE IN AUTONOMY NEGOTIATIONS

LD091841 Hamburg DPA in German 1717 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Hamburg, 9 Sep (DPA) -- For Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, the United States is no longer unreservedly an "honest mediator." In an interview with the Jerusalem correspondent of the BADISCHER TAGBLATT, Friday edition, which is published in Baden-Baden, the minister stressed that the issue of autonomy negotiations for the occupied territories of west Jordan and the Gaza Strip, after the publication of the latest proposals by U.S. President Ronald Reagan, it has become especially difficult for Israel to regard the United States as still a representative of Israel's interests.

"They now have positions of their own, like a party" one must negotiate with, Shamir said. It is, however, clear that "we do not accept the (Reagan) proposals as a basis for discussions between us and the United States." Shamir explained once again that in the Israeli view the Camp David agreement contained an autonomy solution providing for a transitional period of 5 years, but that after that "all options are open." Settlement activity in the occupied territories is in any case continuing even now.

The interview was made available to DPA in advance in an edited version.

FOREIGN MINISTER: PLO'S 'ARAFAT 'NOW FINISHED'

PM100947 Paris LE FIGARO Magazine in French 4-10 Sep 82 p 56

[Interview with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Robert Lacontre -- date, place not given]

[Text] Robert Lacantre: Is the PLO finished?

Yitzhaq Shamir: We have destroyed that organization's whole military infrastructure. It has lost a great deal of its influence and will have trouble rebuilding its structure.

Robert Lacontre: Will it not be revived in the countries to which it has been dispersed?

Yitzhaq Shamir: I do not think so. The PLO will now be strictly controlled in the host countries. It will not be able to behave as it wishes.

Robert Lacontre: So you don't believe there will be a new outbreak of terrorism?

Yitzhaq Shamir: If the PLO tries to continue its terrorist attacks on us, we will pursue it wherever it may be.

Robert Lacontre: Why had it stockpiled so many weapons?

Yitzhaq Shamir: The PLO made the mistake of trying to become a real army. We therefore dealt it a fatal blow.

Robert Lacontre: Why did you stop your lightning advance?

Yitzhaq Shamir: To avoid Lebanese civilian casualties.

Robert Lacontre: Do you think the end of the PLO can facilitate peace in the Middle East?

Yitzhaq Shamir: Undoubtedly. That organization was the main obstacle to peace. It exerted pressure on the Arab countries and on the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. It killed all those who spoke of compromise or a peaceful solution.

Robert Lacontre: If peace really returns to this region, can the creation of a Palestinian state in the West Bank then be envisaged?

Yitzhaq Shamir: Our program is primarily to establish autonomy for 5 years. We will negotiate with the administrative council which will be elected by the inhabitants. If a climate of confidence and peaceful existence reigns for 5 years, then we shall see.

Robert Lacontre: What if the PLO suddenly recognized the State of Israel?

Yitzhaq Shamir: Never. You know its ideology and its philosophy. For our part, we will never negotiate with that terrorist organization.

Robert Lacontre: Does Moscow really control some PLO groups?

Yitzhaq Shamir: The USSR has great influence over the entire PLO. That is why it supplies it with so many arms. Moscow has only one objective: to destabilize this region.

Robert Lacontre: The Arab countries did not help the PLO during this war, but they will probably now treat 'Arafat as a prestigious figure.

Yitzhaq Shamir: The Arab heads of state always use two languages, one private and one public. The facts are there and we are well aware that they are all very satisfied with the PLO's elimination. First, who says that the PLO represents the Palestinian people? I regret the support which the PLO is finding in some cases in Europe and especially in France, but, in my opinion, 'Arafat is now finished.

'POLITICAL FIGURES' EXPECT 'INDIRECT' SANCTIONS

TA082105 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 8 Sep 82 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Yehuda Litani]

[Excerpt] Political figures in Jerusalem have expressed their assessment that in the current confrontation between Israel and the United States over President Reagan's new plan, the United States will not employ direct security or economic sanctions against Israel.

The view is, the sources said, that the United States will turn down Israeli requests for increased economic aid and loans to Israel, and will instead maintain in the current level (in view of inflation this automatically constitutes a substantial drop). They added that Israeli requests for modern military items will not be turned down outright, but the debate on their approval will take longer than usual. Similarly, the President is not seen as likely to intervene should Congress demand cuts in foreign aid to Israel. In such a case, the figures said, the President will also be able to present the cuts as a congressional demand rather than his own personal initiative to effect cuts.

In any case, the evaluation is that the sanctions will, at least in the frist stage, be indirect, rather than direct.

REACTION TO FES SUMMIT RESOLUTIONS REPORTED

TA100833 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 10 Sep 82 p 1

[Report by Arye Tzimuqi]

[Text] Jerusalem does not see a substantive change in the Arab countries' position as reflected in the Fes summit resolutions regarding the solution of the Israeli-Arab conflict.

Nevertheless, Jerusalem refrains, for the time being, from officially reacting to the decisions adopted there. It is only noted that they are apparently based on the 8-point Saudi plan.

News agency reports, which carried the full text of the Arab summit resolutions, indicate that the Arab rulers favor the establishment of the Palestinians' right to return to the areas of Eretz Yisra'el; heir right to self-determination and the realization of their national rights under the PLO's leadership.

It is crystal clear that such a plan -- if news agency reports are accurate -- will be rejected outright in Jerusalem. It is also clear that the "Fes charter" will make it difficult for the Americans to enlist aid from the Arab countries for their plan for peace in the region.

RABIN SUPPORTS JORDANIAN PARTICIPATION IN TALKS

TA091341 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1320 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Tel Aviv, 9 Sep (ITIM) -- In a telephone call to MK Yitzhaq Rabin, currently in the United States, by Yisra'el Galili, following reports on Rabin's position and following the political debate in the Knesset, Rabin clarified that inasmuch as President Reagan's proposals will lead to Jordan joining the negotiations on the basis of the Camp David accords, this should be viewed very positively. The United States should be encouraged in this, and one should not reject outright a trend supported by three [former] Israeli prime ministers.

MUSTAFA DUDIN SENDS CABLE TO U.S. PRESIDENT

TA090927 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 9 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] Village league leader Mustafa Dudin sent a cable yesterday to President Reagan praising the "positive sides" of his proposals. The West Bank village leagues were established by the Israeli administration as a counterweight to PLO influence and this is an unusual step by Mustafa Dudin, who is coming out against the government position.

The text of Dudin's cable says: "We believe that the positive sides of the peace plan that you have proposed as a solution to the Palestinian problem gives a renewed impetus to the peace process in our area. We support all of your steps which will lead to a just and viable peace in the Middle East."

Dudin has in the past expressed himself partially as against the Israeli settlements, but he generally works under the aegis of the Israeli administration and refrains from expressing anti-Israeli positions.

ISRAEL TO CONTROL 'SMALL NUMBER' OF WATER PLANTS

TA091532 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1445 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Excerpts] Ramallah, 9 Sep (ITIM) -- A small number of water plants in Judaea and Samaria held by the military authorities since 1967 and handed over to the civilian administration when it was established, will be handed over to the technical care of Meqorot for economy and efficiency reasons.

Most of the water plants in the area will continue to be controlled by the Arab municipal authorities, as up to now.

The ITIM correspondent in Judaea and Samaria reports that there are 25 water plants, 9 of which were controlled by the Jordanians and after the six-day war were handed over to the military authorities. After establishing the civilian administration a few months ago, it was decided to hand the plants over to the technical care of Meqorot, after the administration came to the conclusion that there is no reason to hold those water plants when the Israeli water company can handle them better.

Civilian administration sources stressed that there is no intention of harming the remaining water plants held by the Arab municipal councils.

Ministry To Issue Explanation

TA091545 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Report by Uri Paz]

[Text] The Israeli Foreign Ministry is now formulating an information paper which will be distributed to all Israeli missions abroad. This will explain why Israel will undertake the handling of water matters in Judaea and Samaria. The Israeli water company Meqorot will be in charge of this matter. This comapny has so far been responsible for water supply to the settlements within the green line borders only. Thus Meqorot will take the place of the water department of the civilian administration in Judaea and Samaria.

Professionally speaking, Meqorot views the primary mission of its new work as improving the existing procedures and significantly economizing in water. The company's director general, Ze'ev Eskenazi, told us that this issue has now been entrusted to good hands. He said the company will supply water under any circumstances and at all times.

Tomorrow the company's officials are going to the area to examine the implementation procedures.

Politically speaking, the picture is more complex. According to the Camp David accords control over the water sources is supposed to be transferred to the administrative council of the autonomy institutions. However now, upon the expected transfer of management to Meqorot, the control over water sources in Judaea and Samaria will be in Israel's hands.

REINSTATEMENT OF W. BANK COUNCILS CONSIDERED

TA051541 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 5 Sep 82 p 3

[Report by the West Bank correspondent]

[Text] The civilian administration in the West Bank has recently held contacts with the Al-Birah and Ramallah municipal councilmen who were dismissed about 6 months ago, in an attempt to reinstate them in their positions.

The members of the Al-Birah municipality said the civilian administration members suggested they have contacts with officers in uniform, if contact with the civilian administration officers disturbs them. (It should be noted that the head of the civilian administration branch in Al-Birah is an officer in uniform).

As for the Ramallah Municipal Council members, the civilian administration suggested aid in development plans which have been frozen since 'Ezer Weizman left his post as defense minister, provided they maintain day-to-day contacts with the civilian administration.

POLL CONDUCTED ON ATTITUDES TO W. BANK STATUS

TA101013 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 10 Sep 82 p 1

[Public opinion poll]

[Text] Question: At the end of the war, Israel will be faced with three possibilities for a long-term solution to the Palestinian problem: recognition of the Palestinians' right to self-determination in preparation for the establishment of an independent state in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza; or a territorial compromise based on the return of large segments of the territories to Jordan; or annexation. Which possibility would you choose? (answers are in percent)

A Palestinian State	Territorial Compromise	Annexation	No Answer
11	39	39	11

The finds emerge from a public opinion poll initiated by YEDI'OT AHARONOT and conducted by the Dahaf Institute under Dr Mina Tzeman's direction. The poll involved a representative sample of 1,203 interviewees of the Jewish population, excluding the kibbutzim. The poll was conducted during the first week of September.

Observations: A. Compared with a similar poll conducted a month ago a slight increase is noted in the number of supporters of annexation and a slight decrease in the number of supporters of a Palestinian state.

B. The above results are not necessarily relevant to the public's attitude toward President Reagan's plan. Since the poll was conducted before the possibility of early elections was raised, one should not infer from it how the election would come out.

CURFEW IMPOSED ON NABULUS CASBAH FOLLOWING RALLY

TA101243 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] The military authorities have imposed a curfew on the casbah in Nabulus following a demonstration staged there at the end of prayers in the mosques. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari says the demonstrators threw stones at the security personnel and were forcefully dispersed. On previous Fridays as well there were demonstrations of support for the PLO after the prayers.

MILITARY LEADERS COMMENT ON SYRIAN MISSILES

Eytan Interviewed

TA090733 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] The destruction of the Syrian missile launcher in Lebanon yesterday is a direct continuation of the government's policy. We will continue to follow that policy if the Syrians try to introduce additional surface-to-air missiles into Lebanon, Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan said following yesterday's air force attack on a Syrian launcher vehicle carrying SAM-9 batteries. The chief of staff said this in a special interview on the occasion of the Jewish New Year to be broadcast on the IDF radio tomorrow.

[Begin recording] [Eytan] The government has already declared in the past that -- after we attacked the missiles during the war, the Syrian missiles that were in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' and there was an argument over them and political negotiations over them for a full year and a bit more than that -- the government adopted a policy and declared that we would not agree to the positioning of Syrian surface-to-air missiles in Lebanon and today's attack against those missiles was a continuation of that policy by the government and that policy will continue. We attacked SAM-9 launchers and hit such a launcher and we will continue to follow the same policy whenever we discover that such missiles or even other missiles are positioned in Lebanon.

[Question] At the Fes conference, Syria expressed willingness to leave the Lebanese Al-Biqa'. Will that willingness be manifested in political negotiations?

[Answer] I think that that willingness is lipservice and has nothing behind it; it is a political maneuver. In my opinion, the Syrians have made every effort to remain in Lebanon for a long time. [end recording]

The chief of staff was interviewed by Yosi 'Abadi and Hayim Ravya.

'Senior' Officers View

TA091524 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Southern Lebanon, 9 Sep (ITIM) -- The advancing of the missiles, destroyed by the air force yesterday and today, into the Lebanese Al-Biqa' was a demonstrative act apparently decided by high levels in the Syrian Government and aimed at feeling the IDF's pulse and examining its reaction. This was said by senior IDF officers today.

The officers repeated that, "No matter how many terrorists are in the Al-Biqa', whether 4,000 or 7,000, the Al-Biqa' for us is a single package and we view the Syrians as directly responsible for any movement there. We have no doubt that if the Syrians so wish, they can prevent the terrorists from acting from the territories under their control, as they had done until last Saturday.

IDF on Alert

TA091328 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1316 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz, reports that the IDF is prepared for the possibility that the Syrians will try to react to the destruction by the air force of their missiles in Lebanon. The IDF, so our correspondent notes, is alertly following the Syrians' movements in the Lebanese Al-Biqa'. Our correspondent reports that despite reports that the Syrians do prevent the terrorists from entering territories controlled by the IDF, yesterday's shooting toward IDF positions, and the wounding of two soldiers who hit a mine this morning, prove that the terrorists do what they please in the region.

IDF SPOKESMAN: SYRIA HOLDING 17 IDF SOLDIERS

TA100725 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 10 Sep 82 p 2

[Text] The seizure of eight soldiers near Bhamdun last Saturday brought to 17 the number of IDF men known to be in enemy hands, the IDF spokesman said here yesterday.

The eight, abducted by the PLO, were reported to be alive and well, and one of them -- Sgt Re'uven Kohen -- was presented to reporters earlier this week. Israel has submitted their names to the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Three others, captured by the Syrians, have been visited by Red Cross officials. They are a Phantom pilot, a driver of a water tanker who crossed the lines by mistake and a soldier captured on June 11. The spokesman added that Israel "knows for certain that five more soldiers, taken prisoner on June 11, were alive at the time of their capture."

The 17th soldier is a Phantom pilot, downed by an enemy ground-to-air missile, who was reportedly killed by Damascus.

WEST BEIRUT DEATHS ESTIMATED AT 'LESS THAN 3,000'

TA081800 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1745 GMT 8 Sep 82

[Text] The IDF spokesman in Beirut, Col Yehuda Levi, said today that the number of people killed or injured in west Beirut is much smaller than the figure publicized in the world communications media. Our correspondent Elihu Ben-On reports from Beirut:

[Begin Levi recording] The number of people killed in west Beirut is less than 3,000 people, and I can almost absolutely prove that about 80 percent of them were members of the terrorist organizations. The civilian population was certainly hit. Regrettably, we could not avoid this. We will of course have to wait another 2 or 3 days until we receive more data from various Lebanese sources. [end recording]

IDF DENIES SEIZING PDRY, HUNGARIAN EMBASSIES

TA082110 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 8 Sep 82

[Text] The South Yemeni Embassy in Beirut says that the IDF took control of the embassy in the south of the city and that IDF vehicles have been parked in the courtyard for 4 days already. The embassy's announcement states that the Israeli soldiers took down the South Yemeni flag hoisted over the building. Yesterday the IDF spokesman denied reports to the effect that IDF units seized buildings of the Hungarian and South Yemeni Embassies in west Beirut.

IDF COMPLETING FORCE-THINNING IN LEBANON

TA081647 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 8 Sep 82

[Text] The IDF is finishing the thinning out of its forces in Lebanon today. The Northern Command's transportation officer recounted to our correspondent Hayim Hecht the transport operation in Lebanon, the largest in the IDF's history. He said that in the war new methods of overseeing transportation were used for the first time. Our correspondent says that some of the lessons from the transportation operations are already being implemented in the field. He also said that work on paving a road to go around Rosh Pinna has begun, and that another road, west of the Jordan River, is being planned from Almagor to the border in the north.

HADDAD'S MILITIA SAID SECURING 40-KM STRIP

TA100606 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2210 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Southern Lebanon, 9 Sep (ITIM) -- Additional roadblocks manned by Major Haddad's soldiers have been set up recently in additional areas in the eastern sector of Southern Lebanon, in the Lake al-Qir'awn area and in areas adjacent to positions manned by Bashir al-Jumayyil's Phalangists. Haddad also advanced a number of artillery batteries. This is reported by the ITIM correspondent in the north.

It seems that Haddad's deployment followed deliberations with IDF officers on the security arrangements within the 40-km strip and is related to Haddad's talk with Defense Minister Sharon at the beginning of this week and the warm remarks the defense minister had to say about the man.

However, figures in Haddad's army today told ITIM's correspondent in the north that the roadblocks, which had been set up for advancing the artillery, are routine moves that have nothing to do with one situation or another. The policy is one of preventing the movement of the terrorists into the 40-km zone and preserving the region's peace and quiet until a permanent arrangement is determined for southern Lebanon.

IDF figures noted today that they know nothing about special directives given to Haddad regarding the means to maintain the 40-km zone and his steps are not viewed as a change in the policy determined since the beginning of Operation Peace for Galilee. It is no secret, the figures emphasized, that as long as there is no arrangement for the 40-km zone it is Haddad who is responsible for this territory.

LEBANESE DEMONSTRATE IN SUPPORT OF AL-JUMAYYIL

TA081929 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1920 GMT 8 Sep 82

[Excerpt] Zefat, 8 Sep (ITIM) -- A mass demonstration involving many inhabitants was held today in Beirut. Many marched for nearly 2 hours in the city streets, bearing placards denouncing the terrorists and expressing support for their expulsion from the country. Many shopowners closed their businesses to show solidarity with the marchers.

The ITIM correspondent in the north reports that in many towns all over Lebanon similar demonstrations are being planned to express their happiness with the ouster of the terrorists, and to express support for President al-Jumayyil.

COMMENTATOR: SHARON RETURNING TO 40-KM OBJECTIVE

TA091030 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 9 Sep 82 p 5

[Commentary by Dov Eppel: "The Cart From (Brisk) and the Lebanese Egg"]

[Excerpt] Indeed, Operation Peace for Galilee got the Israeli cart into deep, sticky mud without having foreseen in advance the results and without any profound analysis of the circumstances. Below are several facts proving how deep the mud is. Let us begin with the minor ones: Right after Bashir al-Jumayyil's election as president of Lebanon, the prime minister of Israel rushed to publish a most warm congratulatory cable that he sent to Al-Jumayyil, calling him "my friend." A few days later, in the dead of night, a meeting was held between Begin and his friend Bashir al-Jumayyil.

Even if we assume for the moment that 34-year-old Bashir took that opportunity to thank the prime minister of Israel for his congratulations and even called him my friend, as everyone knows, the Maronite president of Lebanon has not to date taken the trouble to publicly and openly thank the prime minister of Israel for his enthusiastic congratulations. It may be assumed that Bashir al-Jumayyil, who speaks perfect French, was given suitable education and knows what courtesy demands, but the young president preferred to react with crude silence to Begin's congratulations in order not to risk sharp reactions from the Arab world and the citizens of Lebanon. Furthermore, it appears that in contrast to Begin's predictions, Bashir al-Jumayyil is not enthusiastic about signing a peace treaty with Israel before the end of this year and there is no chance whatsoever of the realization of another of the Israeli prime minister's visions about founding a Beirut-Jerusalem-Cairo peace axis.

It is not in vain that the defense minister is already returning to the original objective of Operation Peace for Galilee: guaranteeing a 40-to-50 km security strip in southern Lebanon. He is apparently preparing this in the event the Lebanese president will not be able, for any reason, to sign a peace treaty.

It is not only Bashir al-Jumayyil who has shown ingratitude to Israel. Another friend of the Israeli prime minister, the U.S. President, has also not acted in accordance with Begin's expectations. Our prime minister did not hesitate to point out the U.S. President's ingratitude. Both in his talk with the U.S. secretary of defense and in his letter to the U.S. President, he compalined that Ronald Reagan, in his latest speech, had ignored the role of the IDF in liberating west Beirut and an appreciable section of Lebanon from the presence of Palestinian terrorists at a time when he did remember to praise the work of Philip Habib and the U.S. Marines.

Factually, of course, the Israeli prime minister is right. The trouble is that he is not taking into account that the U.S. administration does not want to admit at all that Operation Peace for Galilee was carried out with its agreement and was intended to serve U.S. interests in the Middle East. According to the U.S. version, the campaign was carried out at the initiative of the Government of Israel or, to be more precise, at the initiative of the prime minister and the defense minister, and the United States was forced to use Philip Habib's good services and those of the Marines in order to rescue itself from the mud and prevent U.S. policy in the area from being stained with the blood of the killed and wounded in Lebanon, mainly in west Beirut.

The problem confronting the U.S. President is not how to show gratitude to the IDF, its victory having guaranteed U.S. influence in the Middle East, but how not to let the Soviets and their allies make use the conquest of Lebanon by the Zionist army [for their purposes]. If we add to this that Operation Peace for Galilee, with all its projections, helped the Soviets to get their actions in Afghanistan out of the limelight, we will understand just how exaggerated were the Israeli prime minister's expectations that he would gain an official expression of gratitude from the U.S. President.

It emerges that the military success of Operation Peace for Galilee was not accompanied by a realization of the Israeli prime minister's predictions, those of the defense minister and the foreign minister, about the military and political end of the PLO. On the contrary. People in Europe and the United States are very much afraid of a renewal of the terrorist actions of the PLO's extremist organizations (those of George Habash, Nayif Hawatimah and Jibril) on an international scale. Neither is there any real chance that most of the countries of the United Nations, including the Kingdom of Jordan, will turn their backs on the PLO and Yasir 'Arafat and recognize the village leagues as the true representatives of the Palestinian people.

The truth is, to our great regret, that Operation Peace for Galilee did not destroy the PLO and did not pave any way whatsoever for the realization of the Likud government's plan for a solution to the Palestinian problem and guaranteeing peace between Israel and its neighbors for the next 4 years, let alone for the next 40 years, although we can, nevertheless, hope for the best.

It is not clear whether the Israeli prime minister really believes he will be able to overcome his friend and prove his error to him, but, in contrast to this, it is clear his predictions will not come true. We can agree with the chairman of the carters' trade union of (Brisk) who claimed a good carter is careful not to get his cart, with its four wheels, into mud.

BOMB DISARMED IN JERUSALEM 6 SEPTEMBER

TA061026 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] A bomb was found this morning in the 'Atarot industrial area of Jerusalem. Police sappers safely disarmed it.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT DELEGATION CANCELS VISIT

TA091835 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] A delegation from the European Parliament has canceled its forthcoming visit to Israel. The reason given was budget cuts, but in Jerusalem it is suspected that the real reason was anti-Israeli feeling caused by the war in Lebanon. MK Dani Rosolio is leaving for Strasbourg to try to persuade the Europeans to change their minds.

BRIEFS

NEW FINNISH AMBASSADOR -- Finland's new ambassador to Israel, (Yarku Klarun Mantakkenan), submitted his letter of accreditation to President Yitzhaq Navon at the presidential residence in Jerusalem yesterday. [Text] [Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 8 Sep 82 p 2 TA]

TRADE WITH UK -- Annual British-Israeli trade last year amounted to nearly $1 billion, and the estimate is that this year too bilateral commerce will reach a similar level. This was stated by the British ambassador to Israel in a lecture to members of the Israel-Britain Chamber of Commerce in Tel Aviv. The ambassador also noted the significant increase in British tourism to Israel in recent months. [Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1547 GMT 9 Sep 82 TA]

ALGERIA

SADDAM HUSAYN ARRIVES IN ALGIERS 9 SEPTEMBER

LD091932 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Saddam Husayn, president of the Iraqi Republic, arrived in Algiers this evening. He was welcomed at the airport by Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and FLN secretary general; a number of Political Bureau members and senior state and party officials.

Departs After Talks

LD100036 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Saddam Husayn, president of the Republic of Iraq, left Algeria tonight for home after talks with Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN. The Iraqi president was seen off by President Chadli Bendjedid, who was accompanied by members of the Political Bureau and a number of senior state and party officials.

EL MOUDJAHID EXAMINES MOTIVES OF REAGAN PLAN

PM100937 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 6 Sep 82 p 5

[APS commentary: "What Does the Reagan Plan Conceal?"]

[Text] Algiers -- Latest developments in the Middle East again confirm the predictions made by observers since the start of the Zionist invasion of Lebanon, the means used for it and the objective sought.

Indeed, at a time when the "situation" in Beirut is "recovering" and after the Palestinian Revolution's decision to withdraw its fighters from the Lebanese capital in order to preserve it from destruction and to save its inhabitants from genocide, the U.S. administration, as usual, has unveiled its real intentions concerning the return to the policy of alliances and spheres of influence designed by U.S. strategy.

It has been clearly established that the United States is trying, by all available means, to dominate the Middle East politically and economically by leaning on Israel -- its principal and constant ally. To do that, the United States initially tried to further strengthen the Zionist entity. The plan had two phases: The first consisted of Egypt's withdrawal from the field of confrontation and its isolation from its natural environment. In the second, it was necessary to enable Tel Aviv to make Lebanon join Camp David by force of arms.

At the end of that first phase, Washington is now unveiling the second part of its plan through President Reagan: to consecrate the results of the occupation of Lebanon and liquidate the PLO. However, throughout the execution of that plan, the PLO has shown the whole world the fighting capability of its men and has proved its attachment to the cause it upholds. Moreover, it remains obvious that the Near East will not enjoy peace or stability until the Palestinian people's just cause has found a solution.

In announcing this plan, President Reagan deliberately surrounded his ideas with complete conciseness [as published]. Indeed, he spoke of the creation of a Palestinian entity in the occupied territories, saying nothing about several other fundamental questions including, in particular, the significance given to that entity and the nature of its relations with Jordan. In addition, the U.S. President made his proposal while disregarding the party most concerned, namely, the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative.

Despite the reactions so far prompted by the "new U.S. ideas," the Reagan plan probably did not surprise anybody, especially since the United States, with Rogers, Kissinger and Philip Habib, has accustomed the whole world to the policy of "small steps" adopted to keep the Middle East region in the U.S. sphere of influence.

However, it is still necessary to point out that the new U.S. plan has come at a time when Arab leaders are preparing to hold their summit. The Arab masses expect that summit to produce practical decisions likely to restore damaged dignity and recover stolen rights rather than triumph at declarations.

Thus, the timing of the decision to launch the idea of such a plan is intended to be the completion of the previous phases and recalls attempts to sabotage Arab meetings every time a serious attempt is made to unite the Arabs behind their just cause.

MESSAADIA MEETS WITH POLISH PARLIAMENTARIANS

LD091236 Algiers APS in English 1008 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Algiers, 9 Sep (APS) -- Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, Politburo member, head of the C.C. Permanent Secretariat, had talks yesterday with the Polish parliamentary delegation led by M. Stanislaw Gucha, president of the Polish parliament.

The delegation which arrived here yesterday left for Annaba (about 600 kms east Algiers) where it could visit the agrarian revolution village "El Karma" and the iron and steel plant of "El Hadjar".

LIBYA

REPORTAGE ON AL-QADHDHAFI ACTIVITIES IN EUROPE

Speech at Prague Banquet

LD091124 Tripoli JANA in English 0954 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Tripoli, Dhulqidah 21, September 9, Jamahiriyah News Agency -- President Gustav Husak of Czechoslovakia and secretary general of the Communist Party last night held a banquet in honour of the leader of the revolution who made the following speech:

"Dear friend Gustav Husak, dear Czechoslovak friends, I would like to thank you for your speech and the grand reception we were given since we stepped on the soil of friendly Czechoslovakia. Today I feel the warmth of the feelings of your people which express solid friendship to our people. I am very happy to see the steadily developing bilat ral relations and your personal efforts with your comrades had effective and significant share in promoting these relations and this friendship. I highly appreciate your visit to our country same month last year which was a great step that pushed our relations forward and drew us closer still.

Similar visits by Czecholsovak officials at various times had positive outcome [words indistinct]. My presence among you now is for furthering our relations and tightening our ties. I am quite in agreement with all the basic thoughts which came in your speech on various issues of common interest. We all are increasingly concerned especially these days about the deliberate escalation by imperialism and Zionism of world tension and in particular in the Middle East. We have to realise that we are facing boundless imperialist expansion. A large front of imperialist, racist and reactionary forces are now joining ranks to create a confrontation from the Indian Ocean to Europe.

Expansion-by-force policy is now seriously threatening world peace. These forces are attempting a wide scale encircling of the liberated peoples and the socialist camp, trying to establish bridgeheads from Afghanistan to Poland.

We are quite satisfied that such attempts to establish imperialist bridgeheads in this area have failed. Yet we should realise that it is imperative to strengthen our anti-imperialist front. The current events in Lebanon act as incentive so as to acheive the progressive anti-imperialist front. We quite agree with you on all your analysis concerning this grave situation. Allow me to repeat what you already said in this respect that the Israeli imperialist aggression on Lebanon has once again revealed to the world the real nature of Israeli expansionist policy and proved that the USA is directly responsible for the current situation in the Middle East because without the wide U.S. economic and political support and aid, the Israelis would not have been able to carry out their hostile plans. Regrettably, the United States has taken the initiative in the battle to enable the Israelis to reach their objectives.

We all might blame ourselves as friends that we did not exploit our moral and material resources sufficiently in this battle. This is a lesson for us for the future so that we do not give the opportunity to the enemies to take the initiative once again. Frankly, we must be facing attempts to sabotage our strong historic ties which hold the Arabs with the friendly socialist camp. But we are determined to foil such vicious attempts."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi continued: "I should state that we are determined to do more than that. We shall fight the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary forces until final victory is attained.

We have decided to develop relations between the Arab nation and the socialist bloc which they wish to destroy. We are determined to burn the bridges of imperialism in spite of their current superiority to the Arabs. In this historic battle we depend on our friends in the socialist bloc with whom we share common objectives in the struggle against imperialism.

We shall fight for peace, freedom, progress, socialism and for the prevalence of a spirit of understanding and friendship among the people of the world. However, we are well aware that those lofty principles cannot be achieved without the destruction of imperialism and Zionism in the world.

Those great and common aims which we uphold are sufficient to unite our endeavors in the political, economic and military fields in this confrontation.

Thus, in view of this objective and in response to the cynics and those sabotaging our relations, I am here among friends in Czechoslovakia. I am confident that this meeting will mark a new turning point in our relations and friendship.

I am very pleased to express satisfaction regarding the talks we had tonight and I am certain we shall reach further positive results in our talks tomorrow. I thank you once again dear friends and call for our long life of friendship and cooperation.

Libyan-Czechoslovak Communique

For Prague CTK and radio accounts of Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's visit 8-9 September to Czechoslovakia and his conferences with President Gustav Husak and Premier Lubomir Strougal and the JANA text of a joint communique, see the Czechoslovak section of the 9 September Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Talks in Warsaw

LD092050 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1905 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Warsaw, 9 Sep (JANA) -- Talks between the brother leader of the revolution and General Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, chairman of the Military Council of National Salvation and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Poland, began in Warsaw this evening.

Taking part in these talks were the brothers: the secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison, the secretary of the General People's Committee for Heavy Industries and the secretary of the General People's Committee for Housing.

On the Polish side were Henryk Jablonski, chairman of the Council of State, and Stefan Olszowski, member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo and foreign minister.

Press Conference in Vienna

LD100932 Tripoli JANA in English 0848 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] Tripoli, Dhulqidah 22, September 10, Jamahiriyah News Agency -- Colonal Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1st September Revolution will hold a press conference at 2:00 pm in Vienna today. He will speak during the conference about the latest developments in the Middle East and other international issues.

SUDAN

CABINET RESHUFFLE EXPECTED IN 'NEXT FEW DAYS'

WA091600 Rabat AL-'ALAM in Arabic 1 Sep 82 p 2

[Text] Press reports in Kuwait on 31 August mentioned that a cabinet reshuffle will be announced in Sudan within the next few days. The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' said that according to Sudanese sources, this reshuffle is expected to include ministerial posts, specifically the Ministry of Culture and Information. The same sources also expect an announcement on the dissolution of the Sudanese People's Assembly will be made shortly. The sources say new people will join the government, including 'Abd al-Hamid Salih, 'Umar al-Wadi, Amir as-Sabi, Ar-Rashid at-Tahir and 'Abd ar-Rahim Mirghani, who is presently working in Kuwait.

MIRGHANI STRESSES NEED TO SAVE OAU UNITY

JN091200 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1050 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Fes, 9 Sep (SUNA) -- Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak says it is time for African action to save the OAU from the divisions and polarizations in which the enemies of Africa want to involve it. He said African countries must not compromise the future of the organization, but must exert every possible effort to achieve the desired unity.

Speaking to SUNA, Mubarak criticized the behavior of OAU Secretary General Edem Kodjo, saying he committed great errors that have led to the fragmentation and weakening of the OAU. He said Kodjo conspired with the Libyan regime, which is isolated on the African, Arab and Islamic levels, by taking the illegal decision of making the Polisario delegation a member of the OAU. He thus has violated the organization's charter and the resolutions and recommendations of the committee of wisemen, which was authorized by the Freetown and Nairobi summits to tackle the Western Sharan question, and committed an unforgivable crime against Africa and its organization and unity, he said.

Asked how the OAU can regain its unity and efficacy, Mubarak said: Sudan believes the right circumstances must be created to convene an African summit. We also suggest that President Daniel arap Moi, current chairman of the OAU, convene an urgent meeting of the committee of wisemen to discuss the entire issue and to suggest adequate solutions to save the organization from the present state of fragmentation, resulting from the erroneous behavior and statements of the former secretary general of the OAU.

SOMALIA

ITALIAN SOCIALIST PARTY DELEGATION ARRIVES

LD050200 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Excerpt] An Italian delegation led by the chairman of Foreign Relations Committee of the Italian Socialist Party, Mrs Margherita Boniver arrived in Mogadishu today for a 5-day official visit.

The chairman told SONNA reporters at the airport lounge that their visit is at the invitation of the SRSP [Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party]. While in Somalia, they will hold bilateral talks with senior SRSP officials on how to strengthen and promote cooperation between the two parties. Mrs Boniver added that among the items on their agenda was the promotion of socioeconomic development and other matters pertaining to the interests of both countries. The Italian Socialist Party delegation will stay in Somalia for 5 days and will visit refugee camps inside Somalia.

Meets With Siad Barre

EA052044 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 0330 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, secretary general of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party [SRSP], last night met with the delegation led by the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Italian Socialist Party, Mrs Margherita Boniver, at People's Hall.

Challe Siad Barre briefed the delegation on the prevailing situation in the Horn, which he described as worsening day by day. The president added that the open interference by the Soviet Union and its limitless assistance to the Abyssinian regime, which is the cause of the numerous refugees, is the core of the problem in this region.

President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre also informed the delegation of Somalia's wealth in natural resources especially marine resources, agriculture and minerals, saying that increased Italian financial aid in the development of various economic sectors is needed.

On relations between the SRSP and the Italian Socialist Party, Challe Siad Barre pointed out that their links are being strengthened day by day and this is due to the deep-rooted relations between the two countries and peoples.

In reply, the members of the Italian delegation also spoke of Soviet intervention in Africa, particularly in the Horn of Africa. Also present at the meeting were party and other officials.

Joint Communique Issued

EA092000 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Excerpt] The Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party [SRSP] and the Italian Socialist Party [PSI] today issued a joint communique on the strengthening of the good relations between the two countries during the crisis in the Horn of Africa.

The communique, issued after the official visit to Somalia by the PSI delegation led by the chairman of the PSI Foreign Relations Committee, Mrs Margherita Boniver, covers the following points:

Both sides agree that the visit has strengthened the good relations between the two parties and enabled the Italian delegates to see the true situation in Somalia in general and in particular the latest naked and violent Abyssinian aggression against the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] and the painful and pathetic predicament of the refugees, the result of continuous invasions and violations by Abyssinia and her allies, such as the Russians, Cubans, Libyans and others against SDR territory.

Both parties also agree that it is imperative that the government and general public of Italy should be informed of the true situation in this region and in particular the naked Abyssinian aggression using arms far superior to those at the disposal of Somalia for its defensive purposes. The Soviet Government is giving the Abyssinians the latest weapons, which Somalia does not have.

The PSI delegation once again reaffirms its full and unswerving support for the Somali masses and pledges to strive to strengthen the friendly relations between Somalia and Italy and the economic and technical assistance Italy extends to Somalia while at the same time calling for the speedy implementation of earlier agreements and providing further assistance of increased economic and technical value.

The communique calls for strengthening the already existing historical, cultural and social relations between the two countries, giving friendship between the two countries top priority at all times.

The communique further takes into account the problems imposed on Somalia by the unprovoked Abyssinian aggression and the oppression, pillage, massacre and permanent misery unleashed upon those people who are struggling for their just rights to self-determination. It is the obligation of Italian Socialists, therefore, to inform the workd at large and the Socialist International in particular in order to present the true picture of the regions of Somalia where war is raging between the Abyssinian forces and their allies and the SDR forces, in addition to the ongoing liberation war in the territory of western Somali, and that a just and lasting solution be sought for the root cause of the problem.

The communique released by the two parties also touches on the talks the [PSI] delegation held with the Western Somali Liberation Front [WSLF] officials in Mogadishu.

During the cordial talks between the Italian delegation and WSLF officials, the communique says, the Abyssinian neocolonialism and atrocities against the innocent and defenseless people of western Somalia were discussed. The two sides saw that a lasting and just solution for the problem must be sought before the general population of the area is exterminated.

The joint communique of the SRSP and the PSI says the visit to refugee camps by the Italian delegation permitted them to see the pathetic conditions under which men, women, children and the elderly forced off of their land are living. These people have been forced to live in miserable and pathetic conditions and both sides agree that relief aid given to these people cannot permanently solve their problems. Both sides, the SRSP and the PSI, see that the solution to the problem is the return of these people to their own land while taking into consideration their just right to self-determination.

Finally, the SRSP and the PSI pledge that from now on they will exchange such visits and at the same time the PSI will provide scholarships for SRSP officials to strengthen the friendly relations between the two parties.

RADIO KULMIS APPEALS TO FES SUMMIT PARTICIPANTS

EA082104 (Candestine) Radio Kulmis in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 8 Sep 82

[Excerpts] The appeal directed to the leaders of the member states of the Arab League in Fes reads:

The meeting of the Arab kings and other Arab leaders has started in Fes, Morocco. This is a historic meeting because it comes as the Arab nations face a critical situation. The Arab countries face fierce aggression by Israel. Zionist aggression has struck the Arab countries. This is linked with and comes from international reactionaries. The aggression unleashed on the Arab countries is aimed at annihilating the long Arab struggle waged since World War II.

The Arab countries are ruled by reactionary, bureaucratic, dictatorial regimes who are surrogates of international imperialism. Among these is the dictatorial, reactionary and tribalist Siad Barre regime, a regime that has become the ugly surrogate of U.S. imperialism, Israel's strategic ally.

Siad Barre has given the Americans air, land and sea facilities on Somali territory. U.S. forces are defending U.S. interests in the Arab region and Africa. Those interests include the defense of Israel's interests.

Siad Barre's crimes against the Somali people do not end with the offering of bases to America. In the past 13 years, the regime has imprisoned, pillaged, looted, murdered and executed untold innocent Somalis.

Siad Barre has destroyed the economic, social and political infrastructure of the Somali nation. He has replaced the system with tribalism and nepotism. Siad Barre has alienated the Somali nation from the progressive world with which it used to have a lot in common.

The ongoing internal war in Somalia is supported by Somali people from all walks of life, including members of the armed forces, businessmen, intellecturals and workers. The political and armed struggle launched against Siad Barre's regime by the Somali people led by the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS] will continue.

The claims by Siad Barre's regime, by the Americans, their surrogates and all the reactionary forces that Somalia is the victim of aggression are nothing but concocted lies. Those spreading the propaganda know that what they are saying is baseless lies. They include Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi. Klibi knows Siad Barre has no control over the country, that Siad Barre represents no one but himself.

We call upon the Arab leaders who are meeting in Fes to review the matter closely and realize that Siad Barre is there on the behalf of no one, that what he is saying is nothing but concocted lies. The claim that his country has been attacked is a baseless lie. We inform them and call on them to help and assist the just struggle of the Somali people in order to remove the grip of the hyena from the country.

What the American administration, led by Reagan, is doing -- providing Siad Barre with political, economic and military aid -- will be futile.

We urge the leaders and people of Arab countries not to become an obstacle to the just and democratic struggle of the Somali people but, instead, to support fully the Somali people, who are opposed to and are fiercely fighting the dying regime of Siad Barre.

Siad Barre's participation in the meeting is an irreparable and shameful act by the Arab League.

GHANA

RAWLINGS CITES 'MASSIVE REDEPLOYMENT OF LABOR'

AB100805 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] The chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, has advised Ghanaians to break with the past and face the realities of the day. The time has come for us to work hard to justify our incomes, he declared.

Addressing workers of the national shipping line -- Black Star Line -- at Tema, Flight Lieutentant Rawlings called on workers not to live in the past when they were given their factory products which they sold at random. He accused the deposed Limann administration of encouraging kalabule [profiteering] by granting workers in the factories products which they sold above the controlled prices.

The PNDC chairman noted that some of the public corporations have not done well and that most of the time the blame was put at the doorstep of management, adding that now everybody is part of the decisionmaking.

He announced that the PNDC would undertake a massive redeployment of labor into productive areas and the (?premises) of the country. Flight Lieutenant Rawlings observed that in the past, Ghanaians saw government as aliens somewhere and, as a result, everybody thought of feeding fat on that government. Also in the past, there had not been economic wisdom in whatever we did. The PNDC chairman assured the workers that the PNDC would institute economic wisdom in the country. He said the country is in its present mess as a result of lack of economic wisdom. Flight Lieutentant Rawlings also accused the Ghanaian press of not doing well by projecting the revolution as it should and called on them to leave the past. He declared: Our freedom has been tied to things that we do not produce and that is some of the reasons why we are suffering.

The coordinating chairman of the Workers' Defense Committee [WDC] of the Black Star Line, Mr (Ganme), pleaded with the PNDC to allow the sale of six of the line's ships because they are old and cannot cope with the present trends of shipping business. For instance, two of the ships are now in anchorage in the United Kingdom while the government pays 900 pounds sterling daily on each. This is a drain on the national coffers. Mr (Ganme) also appealed to the PNDC to make it compulsory that all government institutions in the import business channel their imports through the national shipping line. He pledged that the WDC will not compromise on any deal with officials and called for hard work. Mr (Ganme) again called for the reinstatement of A.A. Kwashie, one-time deputy managing director of the line. Mr Kwashie was dismissed by the second SMC [Supreme Military Council] government. Mr (Ganme) said Mr Kwashie was competent to manage the line.

On clearing and forwarding agents at Tema, Mr (Ganme) said their activities are not compatible with the revolution and they should be checked.

ACCRA WEEKLY DESCRIBES FOILED COUP PLOT

AB041340 Lagos NAN in English 1330 GMT 4 Sep 82

[By Samuel Ajibola]

[Text] Abidjan, Sep 4 (NAN) -- Ghana's Bureau of National Investigation (BNI) is currently interrogating six persons; comprising soldiers and civilians; for an alleged plot to overthrow Flt Lt J.J. Rawlings and his ruling Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] according to this week's edition of the "SHEPHERD" an Accra-based weekly newspaper.

The weekly reports that when the coup plot leaked, BNI officials were immediately detailed to search the residences of the suspects where they found, among other things, the script of a "dawn broadcast, several rounds of ammunition, and more than 34 million CFA francs.

It added that the leaders of the coup comprised a civilian, one flying officer Odoi of the Ghana Air Force, and one Corporal Amedeka, a guard at the Broadcasting House in Accra who was to use his position to facilitate the takeover of the national radio station.

Investigations are said to be continuing.

LIBERIA

PRESIDENTIAL JET SOLD TO SETTLE DEBTS

AB071458 Paris AFP in English 1449 GMT 7 Sep 82

[Text] Monrovia, Sep. 7 (AFP) -- Liberia has sold its presidential Boeing jet to Congo for 3 million dollars in order to settle debts incurred during the purchase of the aircraft in 1979, Finance Ministry sources said here today.

It would be replaced by a smaller but faster long-range jet to be bought in one-month's time for 5.1 million dollars, the sources said.

Finance Minister Alvin Jones said yesterday that proceeds from the sale of the aircraft would help settle the balance due the Exim Bank based in New York and the Citibank here which loaned the government a total of six million dollars.

The government-owned NEW LIBERIAN reported today that in another move to correct the country's appalling financial situation, the ruling military council has approved "in principle" a car ownership scheme under which government employees with assigned cars will buy them.

NIGERIA

SHAGARI, SEKOU TOURE HOLD TALKS ON OAU

AB050655 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] Talks were held in Lagos yesterday between Presidents Shehu Shagari and Sekou Toure of Guinea on ways to resolve the disagreement among OAU members over the admission of the SDAR into the organization. The first round of discussions lasted about 3 hours and they were scheduled to meet again. President Toure, who arrived in Lagos yesterday, is expected to leave today.

Sekou Toure Press Conference

AB071035 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1615 GMT 6 Sep 82

[President Sekou Toure's press interview in Lagos "about 48 hours ago"]

[Summary from poor reception] [Question] The OAU was unable to hold its summit conference in Tripoli last August because of the crisis now disrupting our continental organization. "Mr President, what is Guinea's position with regard to this crisis and what solution do you propose to end it?"

[Answer] "The crisis could have been foreseen and an objective analysis will allow us to determine responsibility. During the 13th summit meeting of the OAU in Mauritius, the Polisario asked to be recognized as a liberation movement." This request was rejected by the summit. "Up until today, the OAU has not recognized the Polisario as a liberation movement and the Polisario never takes part in the meetings of the liberation committee set up by the OAU."

"During the 14th OAU summit in Libreville, Gabon, the Sahara was discussed and it was decided that a special session should be held to examine the problem but this session was never held." During the 15th summit in Khartoum, an ad hoc committee was set up and charged with the responsibility of studying the problem of Western Sahara and making suggestions for a peaceful settlement. "During the 16th summit in Monrovia, this ad hoc committee suggested that a popular consultation should be organized for the Saharan people. During the 17th summit in Freetown, it was announced that 26 African countries had recognized the SDAR which had just been established. On that occasion, some delegates asked that the SDAR delegation be admitted to the conference hall. Some of the other delegations protested violently and Morocco announced it would introduce a preliminary motion calling on the summit to interpret Article 27 of the organization's charter. This article states that any independent and sovereign African state can become a member of the OAU. Is the SDAR already an independent and sovereign state? That was the question posed by Morocco."

"During the 18th summit in Nairobi, Kenya, no one talked about the admission of the SDAR because this issue had been withdrawn from the agenda by the Freetown summit. There was a very positive element at the Nairobi summit meeting: His majesty the king of Morocco came to Nairobi and declared that Morocco was in favor of holding a self-determination referendum and that it would respect the people's verdict. The summit's final resolution expressed satisfaction over the Moroccan attitude. This 18th summit transformed the ad hoc committee into an implementation committee responsible for the elaboration of the modalities of the cease-fire and the referendum." Since the Saharans must express their desires, they should be allowed to choose their destiny. We were all satisfied with the results of this 18th session.

"However, several days after the publication of the resolutions, we learned from Addis Ababa that the SDAR had joined the OAU as an independent and sovereign state. The truth is that this decision was illegal and irregular and constitutes an attack on the dignity of the OAU! It was also an attack on the freedom of the Saharan people who should be allowed to choose their own destiny. When the heads of state withdraw an issue from the agenda, the ministerial council -- not to mention the administrative secretary general -- has no power to discuss this issue." "Another thing is that the SDAR claims to be an Arab state. Why then, has it not been admitted to the Arab League?"

"The crisis can and must be resolved! There are three ways leading to a practical solution:

"1 -- The current OAU chairman, President arap Moi, has the power to declare by a communique that the decision adopted at Addis Ababa is null and void. In his capacity as the current chairman and in conformity with the decisions adopted by the summit, he had the right to declare that the SDAR's admission into the OAU was illegal.

"2 -- An extraordinary conference should be held to express its opinion on the Addis Ababa decision to admit the SDAR.

"3 -- The implementation committee provided for by the OAU summit should remain the only body mandated to study the Saharan problem and make recommendations to the summit. The OAU chairman can summon a meeting of this committee as well as a meeting of the OAU Bureau elected at the same time as the chairman and these two bodies have the power to study the situation and make proposals to the member states."

The crux of the problem is respect for the OAU Charter, that is, respect for OAU morality. The problem is simple and its solution can be rapid if we consider the OAU an indispensable tool.

Sekou Toure Leaves

AB060812 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] President Ahmed Sekou Toure of the Republic of Guinea yesterday left for home at the end of his 2-day visit to Nigeria. While in Nigeria, the Guinean leader had talks with President Shehu Shagari. The discussions centered on ways to resolve the disagreement among OAU members over the admission of the SDAR into the organization. No communique was issued at the end of the talks.

President Toure was seen off at the Murtala Muhammad Airport by President Shehu Shagari, ministers, special advisers and service chiefs.

SHAGARI WELCOMES ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT 8 SEPTEMBER

AB082126 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 8 Sep 82

[Text] President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia arrived in Lagos today on a 2-day official visit to the country. He was met on arrival at Murtala Muhammad Airport by President Shehu Shagari; the vice president, Dr Alex Ekwueme; ministers and other top government functionaries.

On arrivel, the Zambian leader inspected a guard of honor mounted by a detachment of the National Guard and was presented with a bouquet of flowers. A Radio Nigeria airport correspondent says that President Kaunda is expected to hold talks not unconnected with the present crisis in the OAU with his Nigerian counterpart, President Shagari. He is expected to leave for home tomorrow.

OAU Discussed

AB091719 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Nigeria and Zambia have agreed on the urgent need to resolve all issues that threaten the solidarity of the OAU. This followed the final round of talks in Lagos today between President Shehu Shagari and the Zambian leader, Dr Kenneth Kaunda, who was on a 2-day official visit to Nigeria.

The two leaders expressed the need to maintain and promote the objectives of the OAU and frustrate all efforts of enemies of Africa to cause disunity within the organization.

In a speech, President Shagari recalled the fact of the misunderstanding which made it difficult for this year's OAU summit to take place in Tripoli, Libya. He said that every effort should be made to reconvene the summit so that the organization would continue to move ahead towards the realization of its objectives. It was only by forging cooperation and mutual understanding within the organization, the president remarked, that the struggle against apartheid and associated evils could be intensified for the ultimate eradication of the last vestiges of colonialism in the continent.

President Shagari noted that African nations could not afford to be divided. They should try to work together in order to achieve a better future for all their peoples. He referred to the Lagos plan of action for the economic emancipation of the continent and said that the challenges of the major declarations could only be met when African countries joined hands to work as members of one family. The president appealed for understanding and brotherhood among African countries and pledged that Nigeria will continue with her commitment to strengthen the OAU. Such a commitment, he pointed out, had been intensified in Nigeria's foreign policy which has Africa as its central piece. He emphasized that, for Nigeria, no sacrifice would be too great in the service of Africa.

In his remarks, President Kenneth Kaunda commended Nigeria's role in international affairs, particularly in Africa. He said that Africa was fortunate because Nigeria had matched her words with actions. President Kaunda declared, "No single person can deny it, without Nigeria's leading role, we are lost. This is an acknowledged fact." On the OAU, the Zambian leader suggested that avenues must be found to work out solutions to resolve the issues that created the misunderstanding.

President Kaunda has left Lagos at the end of his visit.

SIERRA LEONE

PRESIDENT STEVENS GREETS ZAMBIA'S KAUNDA 9 SEP

AB092151 Freetown Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Drumming and dancing this afternoon heralded the arrival of Zambia's president, Dr Kenneth Kaunda, who is here on a 2-day official visit. At the Freetown international airport, Lungi, the visiting head of state received a brotherly embrace from President Siaka Stevens when he disembarked from the plane. Before proceeding to the dais, the visiting president presented members of his delegation and the crew members of the Zambian Airways special aircraft to President Stevens. Dr Kaunda later inspected a guard of honor mounted by a detachment of the 1st Battalion of the Republic of Sierra Leone military forces, under the command of Capt J.A. (Stalin).

Immediately after, President Stevens presented the first vice president, S.I. Kroma; acting second vice president, F.M. Minah; Cabinet ministers and other dignitaries to the visiting head of state. Both presidents retired to the presidential lounge for brief discussions before driving to the (Padwin) terminal.

From the (K.C.) Ferry terminal, the visiting head of state, together with President Siaka Stevens drove in a motorcade through the main routes amid cheering crowds to the (Sporvio) lounge. The colorful (?bunting) displayed at the main routes coupled with [words indistinct] of the people added color and beauty to the welcoming ceremony.

ANGOLA

LISBON: NO FOREIGN MILITARY NEAR NORTH

LD092154 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 2000 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] The situation in northern Angola is calm and there is no foreign military presence near the northern borders, an authorized source in Luanda said today. The report, emanating from a Western source, according to which the Political Secretariat of the MPLA allegedly denounced an impending invasion coming from Zaire is false.

On the other hand, and according to military sources, South African aircraft have carried out several reconnaissance flights in southern Angola during the past few days.

ANGOP VIEWS RSA PLANS FOR NEW ATTACKS

AB032113 Luanda ANGOP in French 1730 GMT 3 Sep 82

[Text] Luanda, 3 Sep (ANGOP) -- The Namibian independence issue and the consequent invasion and occupation of part of Angola are the direct cause of the instability engendered by the Pretoria regime in the southern African region.

The South African authorities do not want to see independent governments exist near their borders because they tremble at the idea that political and diplomatic isolation might affect the survival of the apartheid system.

On 2 September, the South African prime minister asserted that his country cannot tolerate the establishment of progressive regimes in southern Africa while making a clear allusion to the future of Namibia. According to Pieter Botha's thinking, nationalist movements like SWAPO would adopt progressive ideas. This is the observation one can make about the intentions of South African authorities concerning the independence of a neighboring territory.

There is no end to South Africa's dilatory maneuvers on this issue, which has been internationally recognized by the United Nations as a problem of decolonization. These maneuvers prevented the reaching of a cease-fire agreement with SWAPO on 15 August.

The impasse continues to disturb the negotiations in New York, which under the auspices of the United Nations, should lead to a transitional process for the independence of Namibia within the framework of UN Resolution 435.

Presently, South Africa encourages unpopular Namibia puppet parties like Dirk Mudge's Democratic Turnhalle Alliance to take advantage of the situation to enter into a Rhodesian-type agreement for an internal solution on the pretext that the Namibian people are impatient with the delay in the negotiations on the future of the territory.

Simultaneously, they have been insinuating that Angola and SWAPO are the cause of this situation. They also allege that there will be no cease-fire agreement as long as Cuban troops remain in Angola and also that the Namibian liberation movement is a terrorist organization.

While these maneuvers are going on, troops of the regular South African Army are carrying out deep incursions into southern Angola with two brigades of 5,500 men and have reached Angola's Huila Province. According to Pretoria, its troops reportedly have crossed northern Namibia in search of SWAPO guerrillas.

Presently, according to reports from the Angolan Defense Ministry, about 30,000 South African soldiers are mobilized near the Namibian border ready to invade Angola at any time, while part of Cunene Province has been under military occupation for more than a year now.

In this regard, in a statement issued in the Angolan capital yesterday, the Political Bureau of the MPLA-Labor Party accused South Africa of being responsible for the present state of war in this zone and rejected the linkage established between the withdrawal of Cuban troops and the independence of Namibia.

To this end, the declaration explained that the Cuban internationalist forces in Angola pose no threat whatsoever to any neighboring state and stressed that they have been sent to our country so that together with the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, they could repel large-scale and other attacks against our territory.

Angolan Defense Ministry specialists believe the Pretoria regime can mount new attacks within a few days with the aim of consolidating the buffer zones that its troops have virtually established in southern Angola -- very near to the Namibian border. In fact, the movements of troops of the South African Army detected recently in the zone show that preparations are underway for the launching of new attacks.

This is why the Angolan authorities do not share the optimism reigning in the chancelleries of the five members of the Western contact group on the future of Namibia. At the same time, the reaffirm their readiness to fight relentlessly against any attack on their national sovereignty and their commitment to contribute to the total liberation of the African Continent and to oppose all the forces of colonialist, imperialist and racist domination and exploitation.

BRIEFS

YOUTH DELEGATION TO SERV, PORTUGAL -- A delegation of the MPLA Youth Wing [JMPLA] led by Domingos Francisco Bartolomeu, first secretary and member of the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party, left Luanda on Saturday for Yugoslavia and Portugal on official visits at the invitation of Yugoslav and Portuguese youth organizations, a note from the National Secretariat of the organization states. The delegation includes Ventura de Azevedo, JMPLA secretary for foreign relations, and other members of the JMPLA Central Committee. [Luanda ANGOP in French 1035 GMT 6 Sep 82 AB]

MADAGASCAR

JAONA TO CHALLENGE RATSIRAKA IN ELECTIONS

AB041332 Paris AFP in English 1256 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] Antananarivo, Sept 4 (AFP) -- Veteran Malagasy politician Monja Jaona confirmed to reporters last night that he would be challenging President Didier Ratsiraka's bid for re-election on November 7.

He also called for the presence of observers from the International Human Rights Federation or Amnesty International at the polls, on the grounds that Madagascar had never known free elections.

Mr. Jaona is leader of the Maoist Progressist National Movement for the Independence of Madagascar (MONIMA) party, which like President Ratsiraka's Vanguard of the Malagasy Revolution (AREMA) is one of the seven parties in the National Front for the Defence of the Revolution.

Only front members have the right to take part in political activity. So far three -- AREMA, Protestant clergyman Richard Andriamanjato's pro-Soviet Party of the Congress of Independence (AKFM) and the Christian Democrat Union (UDECMA) have backed President Ratsiraka's attempt to win a second seven-year term.

The remaining three -- the VONJY [Movement for National Unity] (former followers of ex-President Philibert Tsiranana), the MFM (Power of the Proletariat) and the VSM (Socialist MONIMA, an offshoot of Mr Jaona's party) -- have yet to declare themselves.

Mr Jaona, who is in his 80's and is an opposition leader of long standing who has been imprisoned by various regimes, said that he [words indistinct] to an "appeal from the country" which was "in a disastrous situation requiring global and radical change for its recovery.

Mr Jaona said he was opposed to Madagascar's involvement in financial engagements with outside institutions like the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. He favored a free press and a multi-party system.

He also said that he was "on excellent terms" with President Ratsiraka and agreed with 60 percent of the president's Red Book, the "Bible" of the Malagasy Socialist Revolution. But he was against the way in which policies were being applied as not being "Malagasy socialism."

Mr Jaona said his candidature for the president implied his resignation from the ruling Supreme Revolutionary Council, which he agreed to join only recently and of which he was the oldest member.

NAMIBIA

FOUR COUNTRIES TO PROVIDE TROOPS FOR UN FORCE

AB100828 Paris AFP in French 0728 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] United Nations, New York, 10 Sep (AFP) -- Yugoslavia, Sudan, Panama and Bangladesh will provide troops when a UN plan for Namibia's independence is implemented, it was learned from informed sources at the United Nations on Thursday.

All parties concerned -- the African frontline states, SWAPO and South Africa -- have declared that they will accept the contingents of these countries within the framework of an operation involving 7,500 soldiers and 1,500 civilians to supervise elections throughout Namibia.

According to estimates of the contact group, the main intermediary in the negotiations, a supplementary contingent and two reserve battalions still need to be chosen with the agreement of all parties. Members of the contact group (United States, France, United Kingdom, Canada, FRG) could assume responsibility for transportation and communications.

UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, in his report presented on the activities of the organization, said among all the world problems, Namibia is "the only issue to which a solution has begun to appear."

According to South African sources, it appears, however, that Pretoria is continuing to make its agreement for the implementation of the UN plan contingent on the success of the negotiations between Washington and Luanda, aimed at drawing up a program for the withdrawal of the Cuban troops from Angola.

SOUTH AFRICA

ANC SENDS MEMORANDUM TO SWAZILAND ON LAND DEAL

EA072024 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 6 Sep 82

[Text] In July this year, the National Executive Committee of the ANC sent a memorandum to the Government of Swaziland on the agreement between the Swaziland and the Pretoria regime on the question of KaNgwane and Ingwavuma.

The memorandum starts by expressing the compliments of the ANC to the National Council and the Government of the Kingdom of Swaziland. It continues:

We pray that the Government of the Kingdom of Swaziland will consider this memorandum with the seriousness we are convinced it deserves. In the interests of the unity of the African people [words indistinct] of our common resolve to liberate the mother continent from racist and colonial apartheid domination.

The reported agreement between the Government of the Kingdom of Swaziland and the apartheid regime is fraught with grave dangers for the brotherly people of Swaziland and South Africa. If implemented, it will seriously complicate and impede the struggle for the liberation of South Africa and transform Swaziland into an ally of the apartheid regime, a regime which is objectively an enemy of the people of Swaziland.

Conscious of our responsibility to the people of South Africa, southern Africa and the continent as a whole, we humbly urge the Government of the Kingdom of Swaziland to renounce this agreement and desist from carrying it out.

Since its foundation nearly 20 years ago, the OAU, of which Swaziland is a member, has stood firm on the position that in the interest of peace and unity, the colonial boundaries delimiting the states of Africa should not be redrawn, except by fair and mutual consent, between the countries and peoples involved. Experience has shown that where that principle is violated inter-African conflict and disunity do inevitably follow.

Already this agreement has generated intense animosity between Swazi and Swazi and between Swazi and Zulu, involving millions of African people. This situation gravely undermines the cause of African unity and gives rise to the possibility of fratricidal strife among the African people. This fits in perfectly with the divide-and-rule strategy of the apartheid regime and can only serve to extend the lease of life of this regime.

The memorandum of the National Executive Committee of the ANC continues to say that, as in other parts of Africa, the nation states of southern Africa are composed of people who speak various languages and who emanate from different ancestoral origins. Many of these are to be found in more than one state, as large, settled communities.

Accordingly, there are Swazi-speaking people in South Africa as there are in Swaziland. There are Sotho-speaking people in Lesotho as there are in South Africa. Tswana-speaking people are to be found both in Botswana and in South Africa, as are Shangaan-speaking people in Mozambique and South Africa and Venda-speaking people in Zimbabawe and South Africa.

Conscious of their obligations toward the goal of the larger African community, none of the independent states in the region have pressed claims of annexation of the relevant sections of the South African population. Similarly, some have correctly refused attempts by the Pretoria regime to have these sections declared aliens in South Africa and nationals of the relevant independent neighboring states.

Since its formation, 70 years ago this year, the ANC has fought against all attempts by successive South African regimes to annex Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland, attempts partly argued on the basis that the populations of these countries constitute extensions of population groups living in South Africa.

We would consider it highly regrettable that Swaziland should, at this late hour, set herself apart from the rest of the African people of our region, by breaking with the tradition described above, by electing to separate the Swazi-speaking population of South Africa from the rest of the African population of our country and by joining hands with the apartheid regime in carrying out a policy which aims at transforming South Africa into a white man's country, by declaring the African people aliens in the country of their birth.

Our feeling of regret is made more intense by the fact that the royal house of Swaziland, representing the Swazi people, helped to found the ANC in 1912. Then, and during the subsequent decades to date, Swaziland recognized that the peoples of southern Africa and of Africa shared common interests and a common destiny. Accordingly, the Swazi people were at one time with those of South Africa in the struggle to forge even greater African unity and to liberate the oppressed African people.

Over the decades, the leaders of the peoples of Swaziland and South Africa have worked strenuously to teach their people about the fact that they were in actuality one people, who had been forcibly divided by the colonial powers and the founding fathers of the ANC, including the distinguished royal house of Swaziland, voted in January 1912 to strive to bury the demon of tribalism. They cherished the ideal, not of the separation of the peoples of southern Africa, but of their unification, emphasizing the common African bond that unites us and pointing to the grave harm done to our welfare by the stress on ethnic divisions.

The Pretoria regime, the archenemy of the African people, actively seeks to worsen these divisions in its own interests. In this situation, the people of South Africa count on the government and people of Swaziland to recall the heritage of unity and African brotherhood which queen regent [name indistinct] must have had and, as before, reaffirm practically their loyalty to this heritage.

Having refused to recognize the legitimacy of the racist and colonial apartheid regime from its inception, the OAU has rejected the claim of this regime to represent the people of South Africa.

In keeping with this position, the OAU has recognized the liberation movement as the authentic representative of the people of South Africa and has, therefore, granted our movement the status of observer at the OAU.

These positions have been endorsed and the course pursued by the OAU followed by the Nonaligned Movement and the UN General Assembly, as well as the specialized agencies of the United Nations.

Accordingly, we are convinced that it is both politically and morally incorrect to enter into agreements with the illegitimate apartheid regime, which affect the territorial integrity of our country. The people of South Africa and their liberation movement would, therefore, be within their rights if they refused to recognize the validity of such agreement.

This position already has force in international law, to the extent that the international community has formally declared invalid the decision of the apartheid regime to Balkanize the territories of South Africa through the Bantustan policy. It is our hope that Swaziland will continue to respect this position which she herself helped to formulate.

The memorandum of the ANC to the Swazi Government continues to state that we believe that it is fundamentally wrong to change the nationality of any people without their express consent. In this particular case, the decision to change the nationality of almost a million South Africans has been reached without any consultation whatsoever with these people and, indeed, against their express wishes. The imposition of a new nationality on these people would, in essence, mean that they are being (?colonized). There is no possibility that such a development can be acceptable either to the people of South Africa or to the international community.

The (?purposes) of the apartheid regime in seeking to alter the boundaries of South Africa and to expatriate almost a million Africans are clear. They are:

1. To further the policy of transforming South Africa into a white man's country, by depriving the entire African population of their South African citizenship.

2. To impose on the Government of Swaziland the obligation to ensure that this population of 1 million South Africans does not participate in the struggle to liberate South Africa and that the ANC, the recognized leader of the oppressed and struggling masses of South Africa, is denied access to these people.

3. Further to integrate Swaziland within the South African economy in pursuance of the policy of the apartheid regime of forming a neocolonialist constellation of South African states.

4. To alleviate the problem of African unemployment, which has assumed crisis proportions, by denying 1 million South Africans the right to employment in South Africa, since they will be turned into foreigners.

The memorandum of the ANC to the Government of Swaziland further states:

It is our firm belief that the Government of Swaziland, realizing the grave injustice which the apartheid regime seeks to inflict on the people both of Swaziland and South Africa, will join hands with us to rebuff the maneuvers of our common enemy.

An equally disturbing aspect of this agreement is the intention to develop the area along the Indian Ocean, purportedly to be ceded to Swaziland, as a naval base for use by the Western and South African navies. (?This refers) specifically [words indistinct]. Quite clearly, this is a very dangerous ploy designed to transform Swaziland into a military base for the purpose of terrorizing and committing aggression against the rest of independent Africa, policing the Indian Ocean and the South Atlantic in the interests of the Western powers and providing these powers with a base from which they can easily, and at the opportune moment, (?disperse) their military force into South Africa, to save the apartheid regime from its inevitable defeat by our liberation movement.

As an expression of its intent, the apartheid regime is already building an all-weather road, at a cost of tens of millions of rand, to link Kosi Bay with the rest of the South African road network.

We are convinced that the Government of Swaziland, in keeping with its obligations under the charters of the OAU, the Nonaligned Movement and the United Nations, will defeat this effort to turn the Kingdom of Swaziland into an enemy of the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America and a base which threatens international peace and security.

The memorandum concludes by declaring:

The people of Swaziland and of South Africa can and will in future solve any territorial disputes between them peacefully and amicably, in the spirit of African brotherhood and mutual solidarity.

For this to be possible, it is, however, necessary that the people of South Africa should, like those of Swaziland, govern themselves. It is, therefore, our considered view that the Government of Swaziland would be perfectly within its rights to raise any territorial question with the governments of the liberated [words indistinct].

It would, in our view, have been an advantage both to Swaziland and ourselves if the Government of Swaziland had sought the opinion of the ANC on the question under discussion before entering into negotiations with the Pretoria regime.

In conclusion, we wish to assure the Government of the Kingdom of Swaziland of our high fraternal esteem and of our conviction that we can and must between ourselves reach an honorable agreement, which will advance the cause of African liberty and unity.

ZIMBABWE

CIVILIAN TRAFFIC BAN, CURFEW IMPOSED IN SOUTHWEST

AB091405 Paris AFP in English 1359 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, Sep. 9 (AFP) -- Authorities today banned all traffic movements in northern Matabeleland and slapped a dusk to dawn curfew on the area in Southwest Zimbabwe.

Senior Assistant Commissioner Abishai Chisenwa said that the measures had been taken in connection with the kidnapping of six foreign tourists last July 23. "We have a three months' duration in mind," he added.

The traffic restrictions, which apply to civilian vehicles only, cover almost the whole of north Matabeleland, while the curfew extends further south into the Plumtree area near the border with Botswana. The districts of Hwange, Binga and the main road between Victoria Falls and Bulawayo, are exempt from the measures.

Police and troops are still hunting for the kidnappers of the two British, two American and two Australian tourists and their captives. Believed to be former guerrillas, they have called for the release of imprisoned leaders of Joshua Nkomo's Patriotic Front Party.

Mr Nkomo, whose stronghold is in the southwest, has denounced the kidnapping, and in their latest ransom note the dissidents said they no longer recognized Mr Nkomo as their leader.

Mr Nkomo himself, who has been calling on local people to collaborate with the authorities, said yesterday that the latest messages were fakes, aimed at discrediting him, dividing his party and laying the blame on dissidents if anything happened to him or his family.

The region covered by the restrictions, which also include rail travel, is inhabited mainly by black farmers. The few white-run ranches in the area are exempt from the measures, police said. White farmers in Matabeleland are already complaining of insufficient protection against attacks from guerrillas and the occupation of their lands by African farmers encouraged by the dissidents.

Observers here said the new restrictions, covering thousands of square kilometers (miles), would worsen relations between local people and the 2,000 troops and police still hunting for the kidnappers.

Independent local observers said that some villagers, who are banned under the curfew from going more than 50 metres (yards) from their homes between dusk and dawn, had been mistreated by troops.

For its part the government has accused local people of obstructing the search by covering up the tracks of the kidnappers and giving the searchers misleading information.

Minister of State for Defence Sydney Sekeremayi said in an interview published today that if villagers had been helpful "we could have been through" with the search a long time ago.

The region, inhabited by Mr Nkomo's minority Ndebele people, has been the scene of most of the 50 murders and numerous robberies blamed on the dissidents since Mr Nkomo was ousted from the government last February.